



Obama Hosts Saudi Arabia's King Salman

President Barack Obama, right, meets with King Salman of Saudi Arabia in the Oval Office of the White House, on Friday, Sept. 4, 2015, in Washington. The meeting comes as Saudi Arabia seeks assurances from the U.S. that the Iran nuclear deal comes with the necessary resources to help check Iran's regional ambitions. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

**KEVIN FREKING
DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hosting Saudi Arabia's new monarch for the first time, President Barack Obama said Friday that the U.S. shares King Salman's desire for an inclusive govern-

ment in Yemen that can relieve that impoverished Arab country's humanitarian crisis. Their talks also addressed the Iran nuclear deal, a source of lingering tension in the U.S.-Saudi relationship.

Since March, the U.S. has been supporting a Saudi-

led intervention against Yemen's Iran-aided Shiite rebels, who have chased the country's U.S.-recognized president into exile. But the Obama administration is concerned about the conflict's rising death toll that is now in the thousands, while aid groups lament their in-

ability to provide life-saving support to all Yemenis in need.

"We share concerns about Yemen and the need to restore a function government that is inclusive and that can relieve the humanitarian situation there," Obama told reporters who

were allowed into the Oval Office for brief comments from both leaders. The meeting, Obama noted, was taking place at a "challenging time in world affairs, particularly in the Middle East."

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Labor Day drivers to enjoy lowest gasoline prices since 2004

JONATHAN FAHEY

AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — It has been more than a decade since U.S. drivers paid so little to fuel up for that last road trip of summer.

The national average price of gasoline this Labor Day weekend will be its lowest at this time of year since 2004, a result of low oil prices and a quiet hurricane season that has allowed refineries to churn out gasoline and diesel.

"The year of cheap fuel continues," said Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst at the Oil Price Information Service.

The national average price of gasoline fell to \$2.44 Thursday, nearly \$1 a gallon cheaper than last year.

That means drivers will save about \$15 on a typical fill-up. For the four big driving days of the weekend, Friday through Monday, Americans will spend \$1.6 billion less than last year, according to an analysis by Kloza's OPIS. They are expected to drive more miles, encouraged by low fuel prices, but not enough to burn up their savings.

Gasoline prices often rise



James Lewis pumps gas at a station in Portland, Ore. It has been more than a decade since U.S. drivers paid so little to fuel up for that last road trip of summer. The national average price of gasoline fell to \$2.44 Thursday, nearly \$1 a gallon cheaper than last year. (AP Photo/Don Ryan)

toward the end of the summer driving season as supplies dwindle and rough weather disrupts production along the Gulf Coast, where much of the nation's fuel is made.

But crude oil prices have plunged because producers in the U.S. and around the world have been furiously pumping oil while at the same time economic weakness in China, Japan and Europe raises concerns

that future demand growth will slow. At around \$47, oil is down 23 percent from its June 10 high and around half the price it was last year at this time.

The low crude prices and humming refineries have helped the national average price of gasoline fall 17 days in a row, according to AAA. Refinery production has remained high because refiners' raw material costs have fallen faster

than the price they get for their products. U.S. supplies of gasoline are above where they were at this time last year. September can be a choppy month for gas prices because refiners conduct maintenance while switching over to winter blends of gasoline and supplies can get tight. But prices are expected to drift lower and then drop sharply in the late fall and winter as demand for gasoline

declines but refineries keep running to meet demand for heating oil and diesel. They can't make one type of fuel, like diesel, without also turning out gasoline.

"For most of the country, below \$2 is in our future for November and December," Kloza says.

By this weekend, 10,000 stations around the country, mostly in the Southeast, will be selling gasoline for less than \$2 a gallon. South Carolina's average has already sunk to \$2, lowest in the U.S. California drivers had a difficult summer, often paying far more than drivers elsewhere because of refinery problems in the state. Midwest drivers suffered through a short spike because of a refinery problem in Ohio.

Now prices everywhere are falling, but Western drivers are still paying far more than the national average. California and Nevada drivers are both paying more than \$3 per gallon on average, and the top 11 state averages are all out west. The lowest prices are found in the Southeast and near the Gulf Coast. □

Labor Day flying: behind the scenes at a very busy airport

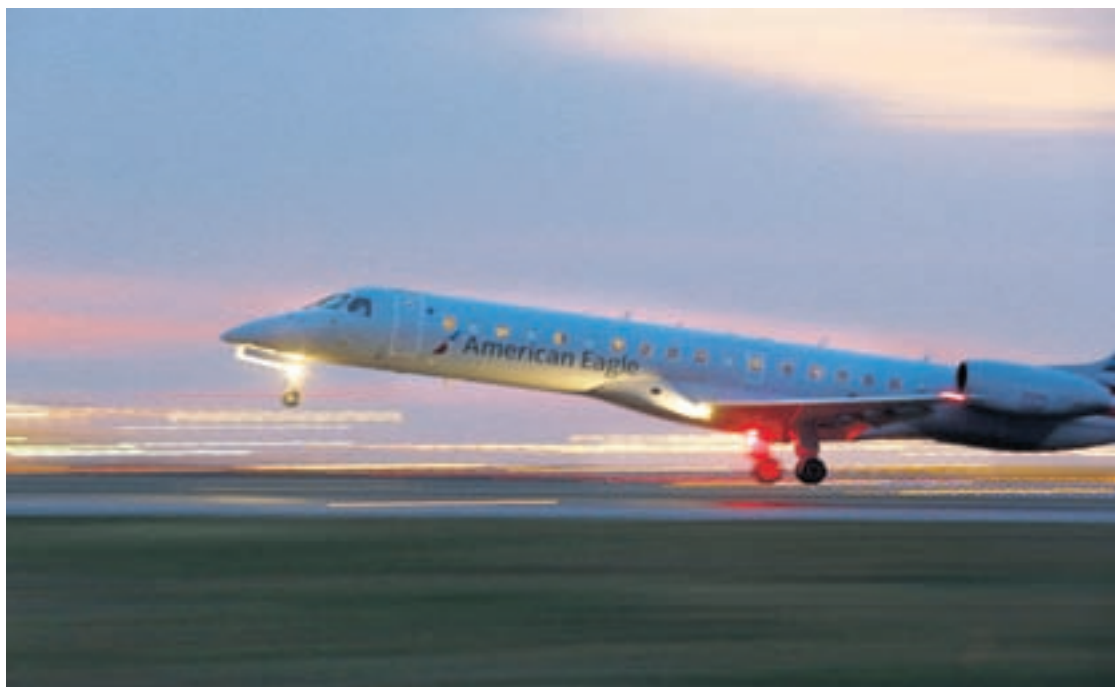
SCOTT MAYEROWITZ

AP Airlines Writer

DALLAS (AP) — More than 14.2 million people are expected to fly over the seven days surrounding the Labor Day holiday, a 3 percent increase from last year, according to Airlines for America, the industry's trade and lobbying group. The unofficial end of summer is one last long weekend for Americans to sneak in a trip, with Friday, Sept. 4, expected to have been the busiest day to fly once the numbers are in.

Millions of others will drive or take trains and ferries during the holiday. For instance, 1.14 million people are expected to use intercity buses, an increase of 5 percent compared to last year, according to the Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development at DePaul University.

But for those who need to get across the country



A passenger jet lands at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport in Grapevine, Texas. Each day, more than 170,000 passengers use the airport, making it the ninth busiest in the world. (AP Photo/LM Otero)

fast, nothing can compete with flying. More families are now able to afford to hop on a plane thanks to a stronger domestic economy. In advance of the holiday, American Airlines and

Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport granted The Associated Press unique access to their operations to get a sense of what it takes to get thousands of passengers to their desti-

nation. To see the video, visit: <https://youtu.be/oXFC2CZ1Lp8>. Each day, more than 170,000 passengers use the airport, making it the ninth busiest in the

world. Since many of those trips are on smaller, domestic jets, the airport sees a higher share of takeoffs and landings than other big hub airports — 1,845 daily flights, which is the fourth most in the world.

In the bellies of those jets each day is another 1,873 metric tons of cargo. It takes a workforce of 60,000 to get all those passengers and the cargo to their destination. The airport covers 17,207 acres — an area larger than Manhattan — and has five terminals with a total of 165 gates. To get around, passengers use the Skylink tram system, which travels 35 mph to 37 mph. In its decade of operation, the tram fleet has traveled a combined 32,465,945 miles.

Whether traveling this holiday or not, here's a look at one of the world's busiest airports: <https://youtu.be/oXFC2CZ1Lp8> □



Clinton: I didn't 'stop and think' about email system

KEN THOMAS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton said Friday her use of a private email system at the State Department wasn't the "best choice" and acknowledged she didn't "stop and think" about her email set-up when she became President Barack Obama's secretary of state in 2009.

The Democratic presidential front-runner said in an interview with NBC News that she was immediately confronted by a number of global hotspots after joining the new Obama administration as its top diplomat and didn't think much about her email after arriving at her new job. Her use of private email has now become a distraction for her presidential campaign.

"You know, I was not thinking a lot when I got in. There was so much work to be done. We had so many problems around the world," Clinton said. "I didn't really stop and think what kind of email system will there be?"

But Clinton did not apologize for her decision when asked directly, "Are you sorry?" Instead, she again said she wishes she had "made a different choice" and that she takes responsibility for the decision to use a private email account and server based at her home in suburban New York.

She added it was a choice that should not raise questions about her judgment. "I am very confident that by the time this campaign has run its course, people will know that what I've been saying is accurate," Clinton said, adding: "They

may disagree, as I now disagree, with the choice that I made. But the facts that I have put forth have remained the same."

Republicans criticized Clinton's unwillingness to apologize for the decision and said it underscored polls which have shown large numbers of people questioning her trustworthiness. "What's clear is Hillary Clinton regrets that she got caught and is paying a political price, not the fact her secret email server put our national security at risk," said Michael Short, a spokesman for the Republican National Committee. The conversation about emails led off a wide-ranging interview that included Vice President Joe Biden's interest in a potential Democratic primary bid, Clinton's plans to address the Iran nuclear deal and her views of Republican front-runner Donald Trump.

Following a summer in which both Trump and Sen. Bernie Sanders, a longshot rival for the Democratic nomination, drew large campaign audiences, Clinton sought to cast her candidacy as one rooted in tackling the problems "that keep families up at night." "Because I think you can come with your own ideas and you can, you know, wave your arms and give a speech, but at the end of the day, are you connecting with and really hearing what people are either saying to you or wishing that you would say to them?" she said.

Clinton's interview comes as current and former aides are testifying before a congressional panel investigating the deadly 2012 Benghazi attacks. □



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks at the Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny, Iowa. Clinton said Friday her use of a private email system at the State Department wasn't the "best choice" and acknowledged she didn't "stop and think" about her email set-up when she became President Barack Obama's secretary of state in 2009.

(AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall)

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Obama says US, Saudis want inclusive government in Yemen

Continued from front

On Friday, 22 members of the United Arab Emirates' military were killed while fighting the rebels known as the Houthis, the official news agency WAM said. It was believed to be the country's highest number of military casualties since its founding in 1971. Pro-government Yemeni security officials said the troops were killed when a Houthi missile hit a weapons storage depot.

Beyond Yemen, Saudi Arabia wants the U.S. to increase support for Syrian rebels fighting the Islamic State and seeking to topple President Bashar Assad's embattled government after four-and-a-half years of civil war. And the Saudis want assurances from the U.S. that the Iran nuclear deal comes with a broader effort to counter Iran's destabilizing activities in the region.

Four years after Obama



Vice President Joe Biden, right, stands in the Oval Office of the White House during a meeting between President Barack Obama and King Salman of Saudi Arabia, on Friday, Sept. 4, 2015, in Washington. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

demanding Assad's ouster, the Syrian leader remains in power through significant help from Iran. The U.S. has largely abandoned efforts to uproot the Iranian-backed militia Hezbollah from its dominant position in Lebanon. Washington has

struggled to limit Tehran's influence in Shiite-dominated Iraq. Despite the Saudi intervention in Yemen, the Houthis maintain their hold over much of the country. The visit of King Salman, who ascended the throne in January, is forcing the

administration to address these concerns. Secretary of State John Kerry said this week that the U.S. was working with its Arab allies in the Persian Gulf on a ballistic missile defense system, special operations training and large-scale military

exercises. The Iran nuclear deal will provide Iran hundreds of billions of dollars in relief from international sanctions in exchange for a decade of constraints on the country's nuclear program. Congress will soon consider a resolution of disapproval of the final package reached in July, but Senate Democrats have enough votes to prevent the Republican-led measure's success.

At a news conference at the Saudi Embassy, foreign minister Adel Al-Jubeir said his government endorses the Iran nuclear deal, having been assured by Obama that it will block Iran's path to a nuclear weapon.

Al-Jubeir also said Salman and Obama discussed a plan to improve American military cooperation with Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries, announced after a Camp David summit in May that Salman declined to attend. □

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Trump says Iran deal struck by 'totally incompetent people'

JULIE BYKOWICZ
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump says that if elected he would

program, explaining why he believes he is qualified to renegotiate the deal, which involved not only representatives of the U.S. but also of Germany, Brit-

House candidate, but to the dismay of Republican leaders he has emerged as the overwhelming front-runner in the party's crowded field of candidates,

news host.

Trump's staying power atop early polls in the Republican presidential contest has increasingly put him in conventional candidate situations, including being asked about his approach to foreign policy.

Trump bristled Thursday when a conservative radio host asked him about a variety of overseas issues. He accused Hugh Hewitt of asking "gotcha questions" when the host quizzed him on the names of top leaders of Islamist terrorism. Trump angrily stumbled through his retort before landing on braggadocio.

"When you're asking me about who's running this, this, this, that's not, that is not — I will be so good at the military, your head will spin," he said.

The tense interaction with Hewitt could set up the next Republican debate as a sort of sequel to the first: Hewitt is one of its moderators. At the August debate, Trump rumbled with popular Fox News host Megyn Kelly, whom he has repeatedly accused of asking unfair questions of him.

At the beginning of Thursday's Hewitt interview, Trump appeared to confuse the Iranian Revolutionary Quds Forces with the Kurds, a Middle Eastern

ethnic group. And he also could not explain the difference between Hamas and Hezbollah.

Later Thursday, Hewitt asked another Republican candidate, former technology executive Carly Fiorina, the same kinds of questions, assuring listeners he hadn't shared them with her ahead of time.

"Do you know that difference between Hamas and Hezbollah?" Hewitt asked her.

"Yes. I do," she replied. "And of course, Hamas is focused in Palestinian territories. Hezbollah focuses in Beirut and other places, but the truth is, both of them are proxies of Iran. Both of them threaten Israel."

On Thursday, Trump ruled out the prospect of a third-party White House bid and vowed to support whoever wins the Republican party's nomination. A third-party bid by Trump, or any prominent conservative, could doom Republican efforts in 2016 by splitting the Republican vote.

Republican leaders had been trying to avert the possibility of an independent campaign by Trump ever since last month's opening debate, when he roiled the race by refusing to promise to back the party's eventual nominee. □



Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks at the National Federation of Republican Assemblies in Nashville, Tenn. Trump says that if elected he would work to improve the "horrible" international agreement with Iran to rein in that country's nuclear arms program.

(AP Photo/Mark Humphrey)

work to improve the "horrible" international agreement with Iran to rein in that country's nuclear arms program.

"I do like to buy bad contracts," the billionaire real estate mogul said Friday on MSNBC's "Morning Joe"

ain, France, Russia and China.

Trump repeated his charge that the deal was "negotiated by totally incompetent people."

The unpredictable celebrity businessman is still considered a longshot White

despite repeatedly insulting key constituencies and offering few details about his policies. The reality television star has described Mexican immigrants as rapists, questioned Sen. John McCain's war hero status and insulted a popular TV

Rubio, Clinton court Puerto Rico voters as crisis looms

SERGIO BUSTOS
DANICA COTO
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Puerto Rico's financial crisis loomed over dueling Friday campaign appearances by Republican Marco Rubio and Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton, two presidential contenders with sharply different positions on a key issue for Puerto Rican voters whose influence is growing in U.S.

politics.

In a speech delivered entirely in Spanish, Rubio blamed Clinton supporters for the U.S. territory's economic problems as he railed against giving Puerto Rico bankruptcy protection to resolve a staggering \$72 billion debt.

"The people who are rallying behind her today are the people who put Puerto Rico in this fiscal mess to begin with," the young Flor-

ida senator told about 150 people crammed into an open-air restaurant in San Juan's gritty neighborhood of Santurce.

Clinton, who won Puerto Rico's 2008 Democratic primary election, defended her support for giving Puerto Rico bankruptcy protection during a round-table discussion focused on the island's health-care problems. She took an indirect shot at Rubio, charging,

"You can't fix your economy through austerity."

"Not a single Republican in Washington has stepped up to support Puerto Rico," she told an invitation-only crowd gathered in the island's largest hospital. Some Republicans describe Clinton's policy prescription as a bailout, although others — among them former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush — share her position.

Rubio said the island faces

multiple challenges, but remained firm that allowing its municipalities and agencies to declare bankruptcy is not the answer.

"I don't believe Chapter 9 would solve Puerto Rico's problems," he said, adding that the island has spent more money than it had available. "Ultimately, if there is no other option left, Chapter 9 is a viable option at that point." □

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Jailed clerk's attorney: Marriage licenses for gays are void

ADAM BEAM

Associated Press

MOREHEAD, Kentucky (AP)

— A jailed Kentucky clerk asserted that marriage licenses issued without her authority Friday to gay couples in Rowan County are void and “not worth the paper they are written on” because she didn’t authorize them, her attorney said. Kim Davis now wears an orange jumpsuit and “has already been doing Bible studies with herself” in jail, her attorney Mat Staver of Liberty Counsel told reporters after meeting with her behind bars. He said Davis is in very good spirits, and is prepared to stay as long as it takes to uphold her religious freedoms.

“She’s not going to resign, she’s not going to sacrifice her conscience, so she’s doing what Martin Luther King Jr. wrote about in his Letter from the Birmingham Jail, which is to pay the consequences for her decision,” Staver said.



James Yates, right, hugs his partner William Smith Jr., after receiving their marriage license at the Rowan County Judicial Center in Morehead, Ky., Friday, Sept. 4, 2015. Deputy clerk Brian Mason issued the license, congratulating the couple and shaking their hands as he smiled.

(Alton Strupp/The Courier-Journal via AP)

Meanwhile, Staver said he’s preparing to appeal U.S. District Judge David Bunning’s contempt finding as one of several legal challenges on her behalf.

The vast majority of officials across the U.S. have agreed to issue licenses since the U.S. Supreme Court legalized gay marriage in June. But Davis

had turned away couples again and again in defiance of a series of federal court orders, citing her religious beliefs.

At least three gay couples

received marriage licenses Friday from one of Davis’ deputies, embracing and celebrating after repeatedly being turned away before Davis was jailed on Thursday. Marriage licenses in Kentucky usually have the elected clerk’s signature on them; those handed out Friday lacked any signature. The Rowan County attorney and lawyers for the gay couples said they are legal and valid nevertheless. When the judge was asked if the licenses will be considered valid without Davis’ authorization, he said it was up to the gay couples to take that chance.

William Smith Jr. and James Yates, a couple for nearly a decade, were the first through the door. Deputy clerk Brian Mason congratulated the couple, shook their hands and accepted their fee of \$35.50. Yates then rushed across the courthouse steps to hug his mom. □

Ex-son-in-law of John Gotti pleads not guilty to conspiracy

CLEVELAND (AP) — A reputed member of New York’s Gambino crime family and former son-in-law of John Gotti pleaded not guilty Fri-

day in what authorities say is a multimillion-dollar scam involving scrap metal and stolen cars.

Carmine “The Bull” Agnello,

of Bentleyville, entered the pleas in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court to charges including conspiracy, theft and money laundering.

Authorities said an 18-month investigation uncovered how Agnello put sand into cars, many of them stolen, to add weight and to increase their scrap value before crushing the vehicles and selling them to a metals processing company.

A deputy Cleveland police chief said Agnello would pay people small amounts, usually less than \$50, to bring stolen cars to him. The investigation began after police became puzzled

about why more stolen cars weren’t being recovered.

Prosecutors on Friday had sought to have his bond increased to at least \$1 million, but the judge kept it at \$100,000. Agnello, 56, has been free on bond since two days after his arrest in mid-July. “We’re grateful that the judge saw today that the state’s position was absurd and continued him on the same bond,” attorney Roger Synenberg said. “His is a legitimate business.”

Prosecutors said the higher bond was needed because of the serious charges.

They also said Agnello is a flight risk with a history of

violence, racketeering, witness intimidation and jury tampering while a member of the Gambino crime family.

Agnello was married 17 years to reality TV star Victoria Gotti, the daughter of the late crime boss. They divorced in 2002. Victoria Gotti starred in a short-lived reality show with her and Agnello’s three sons called “Growing Up Gotti.”

Synenberg said Agnello pleaded guilty 15 years ago to federal charges of racketeering and conspiracy to defraud the Internal Revenue Service but served his sentence and started over. The prosecution disputed that. □

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US jobless rate falls to 7-year low; Fed move still unclear



Workers paint the Julien Dubuque Bridge along U.S. 20 in Dubuque, Iowa. The U.S. government issued the August jobs report on Friday, Sept. 4, 2015.

(Dave Kettering/Telegraph Herald via AP)

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. unemployment fell to a seven-year low of 5.1 percent last month, but hiring slowed — a mixed bag of news that offers few clues to whether the Federal Reserve will raise rock-bottom interest rates later this month. The Labor Department report, issued Friday, was closely watched because it will be the last snapshot of the job market before the Fed meets in two weeks. And overall, it painted a picture of an economy growing at a modest but steady pace seven years after the Great Recession. But it wasn't the unambiguous signal many on Wall Street were hoping for. The unemployment rate fell from 5.3 percent in July to its lowest point since 2008 and is now at a level Fed officials say is consistent with a healthy economy. But employers added a moderate 173,000 jobs in August, the fewest in five months.

"Anyone hoping today's data would clear up the timing of the Fed's first rate

hike in years will be sorely disappointed," said Megan Greene, chief economist at John Hancock Asset Management. Nevertheless, the prospect of higher interest rates weighed heavy on the stock market Friday, with the Dow Jones industrial average plunging 272 points, or 1.7 percent. Higher rates rise would most likely push up borrowing costs for mortgages and other loans for consumers and businesses, and some on Wall Street fear that could put a damper on corporate profits and the larger economy. The Fed cut the short-term rate it controls to a record low of nearly zero in December 2008 to try to stimulate growth during the Great Recession. For months, Fed officials have been saying the economy appears to be getting strong enough to tolerate the first increase in interest rates in a decade. They have signaled that they might raise rates at their Sept. 16-17 meeting. Yet other factors have clouded those predictions

lately. For one thing, there are signs that China's economy, the second largest in the world, is stumbling, which could drag down global growth. The slowdown has already caused violent swings in the financial markets that could undermine consumer confidence. Friday's report suggested to many economists that the U.S. job market, at least, has satisfied the Fed's criteria. "We're well on our way

to full employment if we aren't already there," said Carl Tannenbaum, chief economist at Northern Trust and a former Fed economist. Even the slip in hiring last month may not end up as bad as it looks. August's jobs totals are typically revised much higher in later months, because of the difficulties in adjusting the data for the end of millions of summer jobs. Also, consumer spending has been healthy and has been powering job growth

at retailers, restaurants and hotels. State and local governments added 31,000 jobs in August, while health care gained 40,500. Michael Kanter, president and co-owner of Cambridge Naturals, a health products store in Cambridge, Massachusetts, plans to add two workers to his 20-person staff to handle increased foot traffic and sales. "We're seeing growth. We're seeing opportunity. We're definitely in a hiring mode," he said. □




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Hundreds march toward border in Hungary's migrant crisis

S. POGATCHNIK
PABLO GORONDI
Associated Press
BICSKE, Hungary (AP) —

Hundreds of migrants, stymied by Hungarian authorities who had halted trains to Germany, began a final march toward freedom Friday, breaking away from police and heading on foot for the western border. In a bid to ease the crisis, the Hungarian government said in a surprise announcement Friday night it was dispatching buses to take hundreds of the marchers to the border with Austria. It was not clear what their fate would be there.

With people streaming in long lines along highways from a Budapest train station and one near a migrant reception center in the northern town of Bicske, the buses would be used because "transportation safety can't be put at risk," said Janos Lazar, chief of staff to the prime minister.

"A migration crisis is shaking Hungary," Lazar said, blaming Germany's "contradictory communica-



Migrants walk along the Hegyalja Street in Budapest, Hungary, Friday, Sept. 4, 2015. Several thousand migrants left the Keleti railway station in Budapest this afternoon heading for Germany on foot.
(Zsolt Szigetvary/MTI via AP)

tions" and the European Union for the crisis.

There was no answer whether Austria will let the migrants in. Lazar said Hungary had asked Austria to clarify its position on the migrants but had not yet received an answer.

The buses will take passengers to the main Hegyeshalom crossing with Austria, although it's not clear if they will trust au-

thorities and get on the buses. Some were tricked earlier in the week to get on a train that did not go to Austria.

"This is a opportunity," Lazar said. "The immigrants have to decide whether they want to take advantage of it. We are taking this step so Hungary's transportation is not paralyzed during the next 24 hours."

The asylum-seekers — many from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan — had already made dangerous treks in scorching heat, under barbed wire on Hungary's southern frontier and faced the hostility of some locals along the way. Their

first stop will be Austria, on Hungary's western border, though most hope to eventually reach Germany.

Hungarian authorities had refused to let them board trains to the west, and they balked at going to processing centers for migrants, fearing they would then be forced to live in Hungary.

Under European law, refugees are supposed to seek asylum in the first European Union country that they enter. But most of them see limited economic opportunities and a less-welcoming atmosphere in Hungary than in Germany, Sweden and other Western nations. Earlier Friday, Parliament

tightened its immigration rules, approving the creation of transit zones on the border with Serbia where migrants would be kept until asylum requests were decided within eight days. Migrants would have limited chance to appeal those decisions.

In what the Hungarian media called a "day of uprisings," about 350 people broke through a police cordon in Bicske and began heading to Austria 135 kilometers (85 miles) to the west on tracks leading away from the railway station. Surprised riot police scrambled for their helmets as the huge crowd suddenly surged from the front of the train.

One man, a 51-year-old Pakistani, collapsed about 800 meters (yards) from the station as he fled and died despite efforts to rescue him.

Those left behind, mostly women and children, were boarded onto buses and taken to the nearby asylum center.

Hours earlier, about 2,000 people set out from Budapest's Keleti station for a 171-kilometer (106-mile) journey toward Austria. Police tried to block them at first but quickly gave up. The marchers moved fast, and by nightfall they had already covered about 50 kilometers (30 miles). □



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UN agency forced to cut food aid to 229,000 Syrian refugees

KARIN LAUB
Associated Press
AMMAN, Jordan (AP) —

The cash-strapped World Food Program has had to drop one-third of Syrian refugees from its food voucher program in Middle Eastern host countries this year, including 229,000 in Jordan who stopped receiving food aid in September, a spokeswoman said Friday.

The sharp cutbacks come at a time when growing numbers of desperate Syrians who initially found refuge in neighboring countries are trying to reach

Europe. Since 2011, more than 4 million Syrians fled their country's civil war, most settling in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt.

Abeer Etefa, a WFP regional spokeswoman, said the world must do more to support refugees in the regional host countries or face increasing migration. "This is a crisis that has been brewing in the region for five years," she said. "Now it is getting the attention of the world because it moved one step further from the region to Europe. We have to help

people where they are or they will move."

The U.N. agency has been distributing food vouchers to refugees since the beginning of the Syria crisis, but is facing increasing funding gaps. "Since the beginning of this operation, it has been hand to mouth," said Etefa. "It is nerve-racking for the refugees and the staff."

She said the agency needs \$236 million to keep the program — even in its scaled-back version — funded through November. No major donors have come forward, she said. □



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United Arab Emirates says 45 of its troops killed in Yemen

AHMED AL-HAJ
Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Forty-five troops from the United Arab Emirates were killed in Yemen while taking part in Saudi-led operations against Shiite rebels, the Gulf nation said Friday, in the deadliest day for its military in its 44-year history. The UAE's minister of state for foreign affairs, Anwar Gargash, said the troops were killed when a rebel missile struck an ammunition depot. On his official Twitter feed, he said the "cowardly attack will not deter us."

Pro-government Yemeni security officials said the missile strike took place in the province of Marib, about 120 kilometers (75 miles) east of the capital Sanaa. Officials from the media office of the Shiite rebel movement known as the Houthis confirmed they fired a Soviet-era Tochka missile in the area. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the press.

The deaths pointed to the increasingly prominent role of the Emirates on the ground in Yemen's war — both in troops and hard-

ware — though the government has never made clear the full extent of their role or the numbers of troops involved.

The UAE's news agency, WAM, initially said 22 members of the military were killed Friday but later reported that 23 more had died of their wounds. It gave no details on their role in the conflict. In a series of messages on his official Twitter feed, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the powerful crown prince of Abu Dhabi and deputy supreme commander of the UAE armed forces, praised the troops for their sacrifice and said the UAE would continue to support the Saudi-led campaign in Yemen.

"The sons of the UAE continue to show resilience and bravery in support of our Yemeni brothers against injustice and aggression," he said. The U.S.-allied Emirates, a federation of seven small Gulf states including Dubai and the oil-rich capital of Abu Dhabi, is one of the most prominent members of the Saudi-led coalition, which aims to roll back gains by the Shiite rebels and their allies in the deeply impoverished Ara-



Shiite Houthi rebels hold their weapons as they attend a rally to protest Saudi-led airstrikes, in Sanaa, Yemen. Forty-five troops from the United Arab Emirates were killed in Yemen while taking part in Saudi-led operations against Shiite rebels, the Gulf nation said Friday, in the deadliest day for its military in its 44-year history.

(AP Photo/Hani Mohammed)

bian Peninsula country. The Saudi-led and U.S.-backed coalition, made up mainly of Gulf nations, has been launching airstrikes against the rebels since March. But the UAE is the only country that has acknowledged having troops on the ground in Yemen in the conflict.

Yemeni security officials have said that Saudi, Emirati, Egyptian and Jordanian military advisers are training

hundreds of fighters at a military base in Aden.

The Houthi rebels took over Sanaa a year ago and soon after swept over other parts of the country, driving President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi into self-imposed exile in Saudi Arabia. The Houthis are backed by army units loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, and fighting has raged in multiple parts of the country between those forces and

those loyal to Hadi as well as southern separatists and local militias opposed to the Houthis. Bahrain's state news agency also reported Friday that five of its soldiers were killed while "defending the southern border of Saudi Arabia." It didn't give specifics. Yemen is the only country on Saudi Arabia's southern border where there is fighting, and Houthis have frequently shelled across the frontier. □

Iraq's top cleric demands real steps in fighting corruption

QASSIM ZAHRA
Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's top Shiite cleric said on Friday the government must start hunting the "big heads" as part of its anti-corruption drive, calling for "convincing and assuring steps" as proof of the government's seriousness in implementing its highly-touted reform plan.

Last month, Iraq's Shiite-led

government announced a package of reforms following large rallies in Baghdad and other provinces protesting endemic corruption, sectarian politics and shabby basic services.

Graft is widely believed to be rampant in Iraq, and estimates based on findings from an anti-corruption commission and government reports show hundreds of millions of dollars

have gone missing in the 12 years since Saddam Hussein's regime was toppled. Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi's plan, which included eliminating the country's three vice presidencies and three deputy prime ministers as well as other posts, was immediately approved by parliament.

But changes widely demanded by Iraqis have not yet materialized, such

as trials for corrupt officials, economic reforms and infrastructure improvements. "One of the essential steps for reform is to hunt the big heads among the corrupt and hold them accountable, to retrieve all the stolen money," Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani said in remarks delivered through a representative during the Friday sermon in the revered Shiite city of Karbala.

People "have long suffered from corruption" and they want "this mission to be implemented without procrastination and delay," said the representative, sheik Ahmed al-Safi.

"Quick action and real, convincing and assuring steps are needed to show that the officials are serious in implementing reforms," he added. □



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Police:

Suspect in custody unlikely to be Bangkok bomber



The man arrested at an apartment on Saturday, Aug. 29, 2015, and found with evidence police said included bomb making equipment and stacks of passports, is brought to police headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, Friday, Sept. 4, 2015, after being in military custody.

(AP Photo/Wason Wanichakorn)

GRANT PECK
N. ANUSONADISAI
Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — A foreign suspect arrested at the border near Cambodia is unlikely to be the yellow-shirted man seen in security videos and suspected of planting a deadly bomb at a Bangkok shrine, but is definitely a conspirator, po-

lice said Friday.

The apparent ruling out of the suspect — identified as Mieraili Yusufu or Yusufu Meerailee — as the main perpetrator suggests that the person who bombed the Erawan Shrine in Bangkok on Aug. 17 could still be at large despite two arrests and the naming of seven other suspects in recent

days. The evening blast at the shrine popular among Thais and tourists alike left 20 people dead and more than 120 injured in one of the most devastating acts of violence in Bangkok in decades.

Thai authorities have suggested that at least two of the suspects are possibly Turkish, boosting a theory

that the bombing was to avenge Thailand's forced repatriation of more than 100 ethnic Uighurs to China in July. Uighurs (pronounced WEE-gurs) are related to Turks, and Turkey is home to a large Uighur community.

National police spokesman Prawut Thavornsiri said DNA samples taken from the suspect did not match the DNA found on evidence that the bomber is believed to have left behind — in a taxi, on banknotes, and on a motorcycle taxi he took on the night of the attack. The bomber is believed to have left the pipe bomb in a knapsack at the open-air the shrine when it was packed with worshippers during evening rush hour.

"Now we don't have any evidence to say that he is the yellow-shirted man," Prawut told reporters.

"However, he is definitely involved with the bombing," Prawut said about the suspect, who was arrested Tuesday at the border with Cambodia. □

Supporters of Christian politician hold huge Beirut rally

BEIRUT (AP) — Thousands of supporters of a Lebanese Christian leader staged a protest in downtown Beirut on Friday, demanding a new electoral law and parliament and presidential elections. Michel Aoun, leader of the Free Patriotic Movement, has urged a heavy turnout at the demonstration, which is separate from recent anti-government protests over the country's ongoing trash crisis. Aoun, who is part of the current government, is calling for an end to what he says has been Christian marginalization. Lebanon has been without a president for more than a year. According to Lebanon's power-sharing system, the president must be a Christian, the premier a Sunni and the parliament speaker a Shiite. Aoun, a former army commander, is bidding for presidency. He is calling for a new electoral law and parliament elections to be followed by presidential elections. Thousands of people waving the Free Patriotic Movement's flag took part in the protest in Beirut's Martyrs' Square, forming a sea of orange. "At your service, General," read one of the banners, in reference to Aoun. "We want new elections emanating from a fair election law," read another. Friday's protest comes amid a wave of anti-government rallies in Beirut, sparked by the government's inability to solve an ongoing trash crisis. Those rallies have been led by civil society groups who came together to protest government corruption that led to the latest gridlock. □

Senior right-wing Ukrainians charged in Monday clashes

YURAS KARMANAU
Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Two senior members of a Ukrainian nationalist party were charged Friday with rioting while their leader walked free after being questioned in Kiev in connection with Monday's clashes outside the parliament.

Three National Guard officers died from injuries suffered in a grenade explosion during clashes between police and nationalists who were protesting a constitutional amendment granting more powers to

Ukrainian regions including the rebel-held east. More than 140 people were hospitalized including one officer who is still in a coma. The police said they had found the man, formerly a fighter in a volunteer battalion in the restive east, who is believed to have thrown the grenade.

Following clashes, another nationalist party walked out of the parliament majority coalition, threatening to tip the already precarious balance of power in Ukraine where months-long protest swept a pro-Russian

president from power in February 2014.

Svoboda leader Oleh Tyahnybok turned up for questioning at the Interior Ministry on Friday.

Tyahnybok, who is officially a witness while 16 Svoboda members have been arrested on suspicion of orchestrating the riots, blamed the violence on the government.

"It's only the current government which is building a dictatorship under the guise of pretty slogans that is benefiting from the tragedy that happened on

Aug. 31, 2015, outside the Supreme Rada," he told reporters before questioning. The Interior Ministry on Tuesday issued photographs of the protesters facing off the police Monday, which featured the Svoboda two members with a truncheon in one hand and a shield in another.

Investigators have promised a speedy probe, saying that perpetrators and organizers could face lengthy prison sentences as the clashes have been classified as a terrorist attack. □

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Officials wrench control of schools from Mexico unions

PETER ORSI

Associated Press

OAXACA, Mexico (AP) —

It looked like a normal first day of school at Patria Libre elementary. Uniformed kids sporting brand-new backpacks with their favorite cartoon characters — Dora the Explorer, Hello Kitty, the “Frozen” heroines — reunited with classmates and sang the national anthem.

But that's far from normal in Oaxaca, a Mexican state where teachers' strikes and protests cost the average student 50 days out of the 200-day academic calendar last year, according to federal education officials. Year after year, protesting teachers have blocked highways and cut off oil refineries. Residents of the capital have fled rocks and tear gas from clashes with police. And the city's colonial plaza, one of the most picturesque in Mexico, is often filled with tent camps of demonstrators instead of tourists.

“Every year there has been a strike. ... I've seen my kids falling behind, and we've had to support them at home so they can learn,” said Claudia Rodriguez Sosa, a 33-year-old mother of three students from pre-to high school.

Some parents say teachers threatened not to pass their children if they didn't support the union, whose demands ranged from higher pay to the resignation of a former governor. Now that seems to be changing as a national education reform pushed by President Enrique Peña Nieto takes root in the last strongholds of resistance by teachers' unions.

The overhaul enacted last year was meant to wrest control over Mexico's struggling schools away

from unions who often determined hiring, firing and promotions. In many places teaching jobs were sold, or even inherited.

Officials say thousands of non-existent teachers were receiving paychecks and the government acknowledged it wasn't even sure how many schools it was administering.

The main national union bowed to the reform — at least after its long-time leader, who had balked at the changes, was imprisoned on corruption charges.

But radical offshoots in Oaxaca and other states rebelled against the reform, and against its demand that teachers take exams to test their ability.

In late July, Oaxaca Gov. Gabino Cue finally bucked the powerful local branch known as Section 22 by taking away its dominance of the state's education institute, where it had controlled 80 percent of the posts. Some 300 union loyalists were fired from the institute, which is now run by government appointees under a round-the-clock police guard.

The institute now can dock salaries and even fire teachers who have more than three unexcused absences, crippling Section 22's ability to stage sustained strikes.

“They can still protest, but only as long as it doesn't disrupt the rule of law,” said the institute's new director, Moises Robles.

“They will have to figure out how to march in the early mornings, on weekends, when they're not on the clock.”

Authorities say almost all Oaxaca schools opened on time, with no major problems two weeks into the school year. □



Children line up during the first day of school in Oaxaca, Mexico. The scene is anything but normal in Oaxaca, a Mexican state where teachers' strikes and protests cost the average student 50 days out of the 200-day academic calendar last year, according to federal education officials. (AP Photo/Luis Alberto Cruz Hernandez)

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Trial of Venezuelan opposition leader Lopez nears end

HANNAH DREIER
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— The more than year-long trial of Venezuelan opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez was wrapping up Friday as the imprisoned politician prepared to give his final remarks in a closed courtroom.

Lopez is charged inciting violence in his role as leader of a bloody protest movement in 2014 and could face more than 10 years in prison.

He was expected to deliver his final remarks to the court on Friday evening after both sides concluded their closing arguments.

The judge could issue a verdict immediately after. Hundreds of his supporters gathered in the streets outside the court under the piercing early morning sun to demand his release, though few thought it likely that he would be found innocent.

Opposition figures delivered

statements calling on President Nicolas Maduro to roll back what they say has been a consistent policy of attacking and imprisoning critics. Maduro was in Qatar Friday, continuing a multi-nation tour to seek loans and action on oil prices as the socialist South American country's

economy sinks deeper into recession.

One supporter protesting outside the courthouse said that instead of appealing to Maduro, she was praying to God, because he was the only one who could create a miracle and bring about Lopez's freedom. □

Guatemala ex-president tells court he's innocent of graft



Guatemala's former president Otto Perez Molina makes his first statement in court in Guatemala City, Friday, Sept. 4, 2015, after spending his first night as an ex-president in military custody, following his resignation. He told The Associated Press that he had been uncomfortable overnight and slept little. "No jail is good," he said. "I hope the judge gives me an alternative," Perez Molina said in reference to being granted bond or house arrest. The court is considering a corruption and fraud investigation against Perez Molina. (AP Photo/Luis Soto)

SONIA PEREZ D.
ALBERTO ARCE
Associated Press

GUATEMALA CITY (AP)

— Otto Perez Molina sat in a defendant's chair Friday and declared his innocence in a customs corruption scandal that forced him to resign a day earlier as president of this Central

American nation.

The former leader denied prosecutors' allegations that he was involved in a conspiracy to defraud the state by letting businesses evade import duties in exchange for millions of dollars in bribes.

"The first thing I want to deny, I don't belong to 'La

Linea,'" Perez Molina said, referring to the name of the fraud scheme, Spanish for "The Line."

Prosecutors argued that Perez Molina was, in fact, aware of the conspiracy, and formally asked the judge to order a trial on charges of illicit association and graft.

They presented 77 wiretap conversations that totaled more than five hours and were recorded over multiple days, as well as documents seized in raids that detailed how the bribes were divvied up.

Prosecutors contend that when people in the wiretaps refer to No. 1, they were alluding to Perez Molina and that former Vice President Roxana Baldetti was 2.

"The structure under the 1 and 2 received 50 percent, and the 1 and 2 received the other 50 percent" of the money, prosecutor Jose Antonio Morales alleged.

Baldetti resigned May 8 after her former personal secretary, who remains a fugitive, was named as the alleged ringleader of the scheme. Baldetti, now jailed and facing charges, also says she is innocent.

"Your honor I am not going to risk my dignity, my work, nor all the effort I have made for Guatemala in return for \$800,000," Perez Molina said in allusion to dollar figures presented by prosecutors.

It was Perez Molina's second day in court. He spent the previous night, his first as an ex-president, in custody at a military barracks in the capital.

Dressed in a sharp blue suit and striped tie, he told The Associated Press he had been uncomfortable and slept little, and hopes to be granted bond or house arrest.

"No jail is good. ... I hope the judge gives me an alternative," Perez Molina said.

Perez Molina formally stepped down Thursday as Guatemala's political crisis came to a dramatic climax, and Vice President Alejandro Maldonado was sworn in hours later as the country's new leader.

He promised to lead an honest and inclusive transition government, and to restore Guatemalans' confidence in their democracy. Maldonado will serve the rest of Perez Molina's term, which ends in January. The country is set to vote Sunday for the next president in an election whose timing has nothing to do with the crisis. □

Argentina official says doors open to Syrian refugees

A. CALATRAVA
Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina
(AP)

— Argentina's cabinet chief said on Friday that the South American nation is willing to welcome more Syrian refugees fleeing their country's civil war. Anibal Fernandez said that the government eased the entrance of Syrians through a program begun last year, but he didn't specify how many of the

refugees had arrived so far. He said the Syrians will be welcomed through the country's tradition of helping out during humanitarian crises.

"When you do something like this, it's a very honest act that springs from affection and solidarity," Fernandez said.

He said he had been troubled this week by the image of a dead 3-year-old Syrian boy on a Turkish

beach. The photograph has drawn the world's attention to a wave of migration fueled by war and deprivation.

Since civil war broke out in their country in 2011, more than 4 million Syrians have sought refuge abroad, the largest number from any crisis in almost 25 years, the United Nations has said.

Juan Pablo Terminiello, legal associate at Argentina's office of the UN High

Commissioner for Refugees, estimates that the South American country so far has welcomed less than 100 Syrian refugees. Leaders of the Syrian-Lebanese community, with an estimated 4 million people in Argentina, have asked authorities to speed up procedures so more of the refugees can enter the country.

Neighboring Uruguay welcomed 42 Syrian refugees

who arrived in October 2014. Under former President Jose Mujica, Uruguay initially agreed to receive a total of 120 Syrian refugees.

Current Uruguayan Foreign Minister Rodolfo Nin Novoa has said that a second group of seven families will arrive later this year. He has rejected criticism by some Uruguayans who believe their country should not accept more refugees. □



A Superior Culinary Delight Without Dietary Restrictions

PALM BEACH - Both White Modern Cuisine and the Kitchen Table by White experience that more and more customers are looking for restaurants to accommodate their dietary restrictions. Chef Urvin Croes, trained in Aruba and the Netherlands in the culinary arts, knows firsthand how this can affect your dining out experience: he is allergic to seafood. Yet, as a professional, he strongly believes that hospitality is about accommodating guests: the menu at White Modern Cuisine actually has several standard menu items that consider vegetarian choices or gluten allergies.



need to be purchased and prepared, but for the chefs at both White Modern Cuisine and The Kitchen Table the opportunity to become creative with a specific set of ingredients is always a nice professional challenge they take on with gusto.

Chef Urvin: "As I learned to cook, I discovered the pleasure if gives me to take ingredients and play with flavors to surprise my guests, and those ingredients for any good Chef should include those that facilitate our guests that cannot eat everything else!" We say a great Chef can do this and turn the meal into a spectacular journey one will never forget, and that describes what Chef Urvin does perfectly. The reviews on TripAdvisor speak for themselves. □



"People without dietary restrictions often don't realize that it's perfectly possible to prepare great tasting dishes without gluten, dairy or other possible allergens" says Chef Urvin.

Besides the regular menu items, with at least 24 hour advance notice, the restaurant can accommodate most dietary restrictions or allergies.

The concept at the Kitchen Table by White, with a monthly changing set-menu, is a bit different. Yet, knowing that there will be groups or couples where one or more persons have

restrictions, The Kitchen Table will facilitate these guests graciously. It does require at least 24 hour notice as the right ingredients



Local Theater: Virginia Dementricia Returns To Aruba!

ORANJESTAD - In 1860 the Aruban slave Virginia Dementricia was sentenced to fourteen blows with a rope because of running away and rebelliousness. She has a second life in the play 'WE WANT OUR FREEDOM!' In this theatrical lawsuit the runaway slave Virginia demands her freedom. The other characters are inspired by historical personages too. Virginia's lawyer is the philosopher John

Locke. He advocates Virginia's liberty, but owns shares in the slave trade. His opponent is Reverend Jacobus Capitein. On behalf of her owner, he claims Virginia as his rightful property. Capitein is even more ambiguous than Locke. As a boy he was a slave in Africa, but now he advocates slavery on theological grounds. The trial takes a curious turn when Capitein and Locke accuse one another of se-

cretly having their eye on Virginia. Will Virginia gain her freedom? You, honored audience, are the jury in this tragicomic lawsuit, which is performed in the Sala di Corte of Oranjestad.

PERFORMANCE DATES:

Saturday, September 12 at 8pm, and Sunday, September 13 at 5pm, at SALA DI CORTE, Oranjestad. Entrance only Afl. 35, = Tickets at VAN DORP ARUBA and PLAZA BOOKSHOP.

Direction: Albert Schoobaar
Actors: Roy Colastica, Meliza Garmes, Marcel van Duijneveldt, Crisen Schorea, Cees Maris; Singing: Elia Isenia; Text: Cees Maris.

-ALBERT SCHOOBAAAR (Curaçao, 1970) is an actor, theater maker, director, author, and co-founder of the Curaçaoan theater group Teatro KadaKen. In 2003 he directed the experimental play Oedipus by Hugo Claus, with Gibi Bacilio as the leading character. In the same year he wrote and acted in 'We are not humans anymore'. Since 2008 he produces, with Teatro KadaKen, plays for the Curaçaoan youth of high artistic quality and social relevance. In 2012 Schoobaar developed the show Tambú, a freedom song, in cooperation with Teatro Luna Blou and Het Volksoperahuis (performed a.o. in Bijlmer Parktheater, Amsterdam and Oerol, Terschelling).

-ROLAND RÒI COLASTICA Storyteller, author, actor, theatre maker, theatre producer, and theatre teacher has made a highly interesting career in theater with many international performances.

The last highlight was his theatrical solo narration 'Desire', which has toured the four big cities of South Africa, and also had shows in Dubai and The Netherlands. After visiting Aruba with 'We Want Our Free-



dom!', 'Desire' travels to Scotland and England. Roland considers Aruba as his second home. For more than 30 years he has close artistic and friendly ties with Aruba, with many performances on the island.

-FILOMENA 'ELIA' ISENIA (Curaçao, 1957) is most popular for participating and winning the Tumba festival during Carnival time (three times Tumba Queen, 1991-2010). Elia Isenia has represented Curaçao various times at the international level, among others in Cuba, Venezuela, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Surinam and The Netherlands. She sings in various musical styles, and has directed a few plays. She really is a Curaçaoan cultural genius.

-CRISEN SCHOREA (39) is a sociologist, communication manager of Kas di Kultura, and actress. She has acted, among others, in Den Nòmber di Tata and Na Pechu. She also works on a collection of poems.

-MARCEL VAN DUIJNEVELDT (Netherlands, 1970) moved to Curaçao in 2001. He divides his time between his teaching at Radulphus College and artists' studio. In his artistic works, he is a surrealist who applies different disciplines: painting, drawing, collage, assemblage and sculpting. Van Duijneveldt debuted as a successful actor in We Want Our Freedom! (Curaçao 2014).

-CEES MARIS is emeritus professor of Philosophy of Law at the University of Amsterdam. Since 1992 he is a visiting professor at the University of the Dutch Antilles/University of Curaçao. He also writes and makes philosophical theater, among others the oratorio Horror Vacui, The Dance of Zarathustra (New York 2003; Amsterdam 2004, direction Luc Boyer) and Wij willen onze vrijheid! (Amsterdam 2013, direction Ab Gietelink; Curaçao 2014 and Aruba 2015, direction Albert Schoobaar). □

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Distinguished Visitors Honored at Renaissance Ocean Suites

ORANJESTAD - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority honored Mr. Frank Di Tomasso and Jo Ann Kisielewski as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba as a token of appreciation for visiting the island for over 10 years consecutive.

Ms. Darline de Cuba representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, Visitors Care Liaison, bestowed the certificate of Distinguished Visitors to the honorees on behalf of the Government



presented at the ceremony and handed out some gifts to the honorees and also thanked them on behalf of Renaissance Ocean Suites. □



of Aruba.

Ms. D. De Cuba thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their 'home away from home' for so many years.

Frank & Jo-Ann, resident of Staten Island, New York, stated that the main reasons for returning to Aruba were the weather, the restaurants, safety and most of all the people.

Mr. Tino Daal from the Activities Department was



Distinguished Visitors Honored by Aruba Tourism Authority!



ORANJESTAD - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority honored Mr. Michael and Mrs. Barbara Timcoe, residents of Peekskill, New York, as Distinguished Visitors to the honorees on



tors of Aruba as a token of appreciation for visiting the island for over 10 years consecutive.

Ms. Darline S. de Cuba representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, Visitors Care Liaison, bestowed the certificate of Distinguished Visitors to the honorees on

behalf of the Government of Aruba.

Ms. D. De Cuba thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their 'home away from home' for so many years.

Michael and Barbara stated that the main reasons

for returning to Aruba were the weather, the restaurants, safety and most of all the friendly people, and because the staff at La Quinta are so excellent. Congratulations to Family Timcoe, you hold a special place in the hearts of Arubans. □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

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ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

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Judge Richard M. Berman enters federal court in New York on Monday, Aug. 31, 2015.
Associated Press

Judge's NFL bashing skips judgment of Brady in 'Deflategate'

LARRY NEUMEISTER
Associated Press

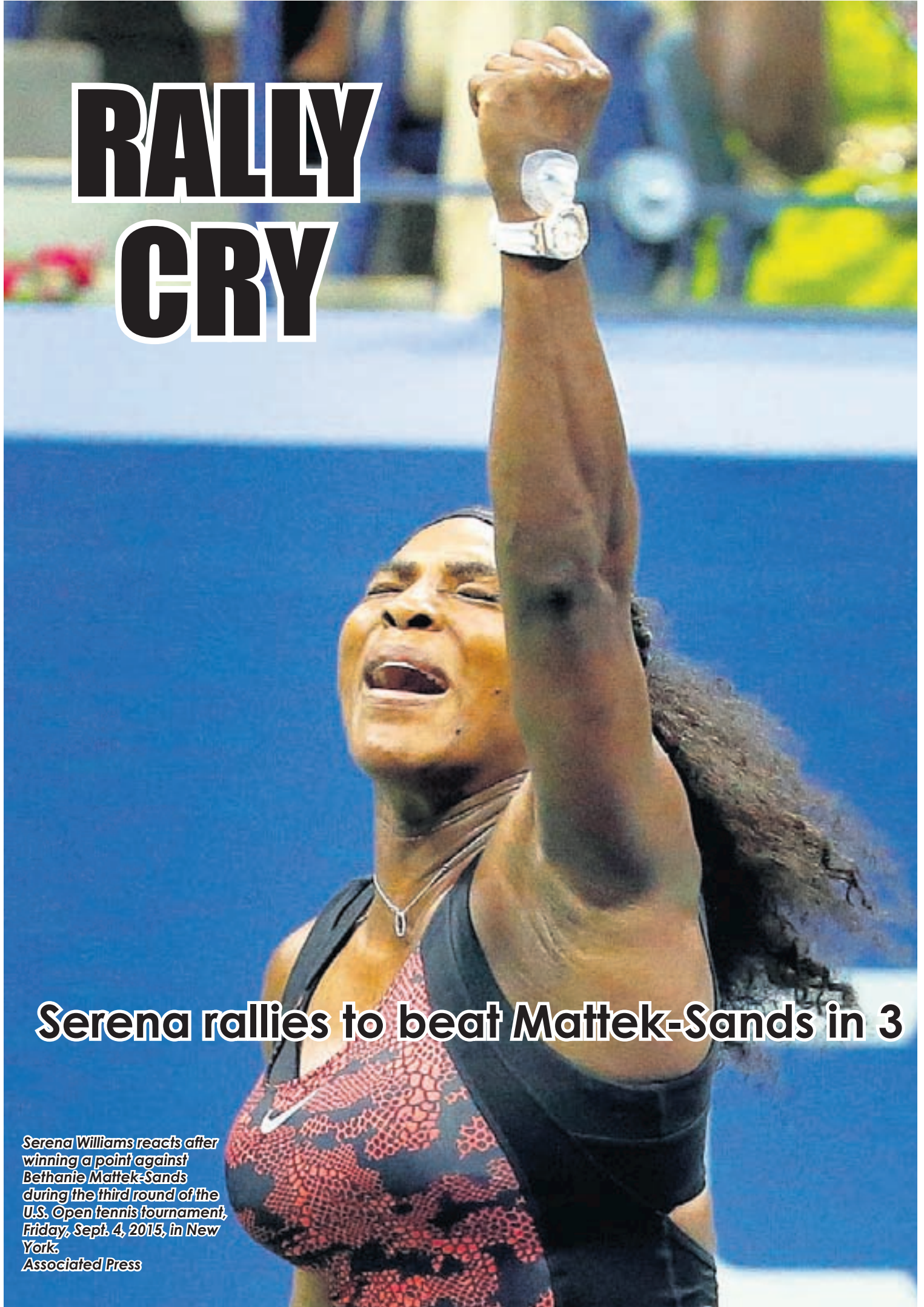
NEW YORK (AP)—A judge's ruling freeing New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady to play football erased his four-game suspension but failed to address the root question of the "Deflategate" scandal: What did Brady know about a plot to deflate balls before January's AFC championship game? U.S. District Judge Richard M. Berman thoroughly trashed NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell's handling of the NFL disciplinary process in his Thursday ruling, but did little to cast aside the perception by some that Brady knew more than he was willing to reveal about the scheme the league has blamed on Patriots ball handlers. Berman noted that Brady's statistics were better in the second half of the 45-7 win over the Indianapolis Colts, when the balls were properly inflated. Yet conclusions about Brady himself were sparse after reviewing the NFL's investigative report, Goodell's arbitration hearing with Brady and other evidence.

Continued on page 22

RALLY CRY

Serena rallies to beat Mattek-Sands in 3

Serena Williams reacts after winning a point against Bethanie Mattek-Sands during the third round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Friday, Sept. 4, 2015, in New York.
Associated Press



Serena Williams' comeback extends Grand Slam try at U.S. Open

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Can't count out Serena Williams, no matter how big the deficit, no matter how off-target her strokes, no matter how much the pressure might be mounting as she bids for a calendar-year Grand Slam.

Eight times this season at major tournaments, Williams has dropped the opening set. Eight times, she has won.

The latest comeback was in the third round of the U.S. Open on Friday night, when Williams figured out a way to deal with a tricky opponent and get her own game going before it was too late, eventually emerging to grab the last eight games for a 3-6, 7-5, 6-0 victory over Bethanie Mattek-Sands.

"I'm not trying to live on the edge," Williams said with a big smile.

Perhaps. Still, no one does it better.

And with so much at stake, no less.

The No. 1-ranked Williams is trying to become the first tennis player since Steffi Graf in 1988 to win all four Grand Slam tournaments in the same season.

She won the Australian Open on hard courts in January, the French Open on clay courts in June, and Wimbledon on grass courts in July, and now is four wins away from adding the trophy on the hard courts of the U.S. Open. Next up is a fourth-round match Sun-



Venus Williams, of the United States, returns a shot to Belinda Bencic, of Switzerland, during the third round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Friday, Sept. 4, 2015, in New York.

Associated Press

day against yet another American, 19th-seeded Madison Keys.

Looking down the line, Williams' quarterfinal opponent could be her older sister Venus.

There were moments Friday under the lights of Arthur Ashe Stadium when it appeared that Mattek-Sands, a wild-card entry ranked 101st, would not allow that to happen.

While Mattek-Sands won doubles titles this year at the Australian Open and French Open, this was a rare moment in the spotlight for her in singles. She had appeared in the U.S. Open 13 other times, never

making it as far as the third round until this week.

But by mixing in slices with flat strokes, heading to the net when there were openings — and even sometimes when there weren't — Mattek-Sands played a varied, attacking style that gave Williams fits at times. Particularly on break points: Williams was able to convert only 3 of 16 through the first two sets, before going 3 of 5 in the third.

"I said, 'You know what, Serena? Just keep going,'" said Williams, a 33-year-old American who also has a chance to become the first woman since Chris Evert in 1975-78 to win four U.S.

Opens in a row. "Keep trying, keep trying, keep trying."

Mattek-Sands started well, taking a 3-0 lead while grabbing 16 of the first 21 points.

Williams decidedly did not, responsible for each of the match's first half-dozen unforced errors.

That opening set ended with three consecutive miscues by Williams — a backhand wide, a swinging forehand volley long, a forehand return wide.

As excited as Mattek-Sands was, and as visibly upset as Williams was, the match could hardly be considered over at that point. Consid-

er: Williams entered with a 7-0 record when dropping the first set of a match at a major in 2015.

It took her a while to get into the second set, though, missing out on break chance after break chance, and showing her exasperation repeatedly. After one flubbed backhand, she wheeled and looked at coach Patrick Mouratoglou in the stands. After another, she leaned over, pushing her forehead against the handle of her racket.

This did not come easily.

Even when Williams finally converted her sixth break point of the second set, screaming loudly to celebrate the 5-3 lead, she quickly double-faulted twice while serving for the set, helping Mattek-Sands break right back. Soon thereafter, it was 5-all, and Mattek-Sands was two games from one of the biggest surprises in tennis history.

She did not win another game.

Earlier Friday, Venus gathered herself after a mid-match dip to reel off the five games and beat 12th-seeded Belinda Bencic of Switzerland 6-3, 6-4.

Did Venus get any family advice before facing Bencic, who defeated Serena last month en route to the title at a hard-court event in Toronto?

"Yes, but that's between us," Venus said, breaking into a wide smile. "I think it worked." □



Toronto FC's Jozy Altidore, right, shields the ball from Montreal Impact's Victor Cabrera during the second half of a soccer game, Saturday, Aug. 29, 2015 in Toronto.

Associated Press

Toronto's Warner, Montreal's Cabrera suspended by MLS

TORONTO (AP) — Toronto FC midfielder Collen Warner and Montreal defender Victor Cabrera have received suspensions for violent play.

The MLS disciplinary committee suspended Warner for two games Friday and fined him for violent conduct after taking down Dominic Oduro in Toronto's 2-1 victory last Saturday.

Oduro had dribbled past a prone Benoit Cheyrou,

prompting Warner — seemingly upset that the referee had not stopped play to allow treatment for his injured teammate — to take him down.

Cabrera was suspended one game and fined for a sliding tackle from behind on Jozy Altidore.

Also,

L.A. defender Leonardo was fined for failing to leave the field in a timely/orderly matter, Chicago's

Matt Polster was fined for actions involving a fan, and Philadelphia's Cristian Maidana's three-game suspension for spitting was reduced to two games.

Commissioner Don Garber also fined Los Angeles coach Bruce Arena, Portland coach Caleb Porter and owner Merritt Paulson, and Sporting Kansas City coach Peter Vermes undisclosed amounts for public criticism of the officials. □



Day, Spieth rolling in opposite directions at TPC Boston

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

NORTON, Mass. (AP) — Brendon de Jonge described his opening round Friday at the Deutsche Bank Championship as coming out of nowhere. Jordan Spieth's start — his third straight round over par — was becoming far too familiar for him.

De Jonge ran off seven birdies in calming conditions at the TPC Boston for a 6-under 65 that gave him a two-shot lead over nine players, including Rickie Fowler, Henrik Stenson and Luke Donald.

"It's been a tough stretch for me the last couple of months, unfortunately," de Jonge said. "I felt like my game was OK, but the scoring wasn't. And then, obviously, everything today sort of clicked."

Jason Day, needing a victory to become No. 1 in the world for the first time, reached 5 under until two bogeys over his final five holes. He had a 68 and was right in the mix. Rory McIlroy, back at No. 1 and playing for only the second time since the U.S. Open because of an ankle injury, had a 70.

The shocker was Spieth.

He was visibly irritated just an hour into his round after two poor irons shots set up bogeys, and his day never got much better. The Masters and U.S. Open champion had eight bogeys in a round of 75, matching his highest start of the year. Coming off a missed cut at The Barclays, he goes into Friday in a tie for 80th. It was the first time since June 2014 that Spieth has had three straight rounds over par.

He left without speaking to reporters.

De Jonge played on the Presidents Cup team two

years ago, though he doesn't consider himself in the mix for the South Korea matches next month, unless he were to win. And that's the one item — winning on the PGA Tour — that remains on his checklist.

This would be an ideal place. The second FedEx Cup playoff event assures the winner a spot in the top five at the season-ending Tour Championship and a clear shot at the \$10 million bonus.

Of the players at 67, the most intriguing was Donald. A former world No. 1, he first had to make sure he got into the top 125 to qualify for the FedEx Cup playoffs, and then last week at The Barclays he had to play his way from No. 119 into the top 100 that got into the TPC Boston. Now at No. 87, the next goal for Donald is to crack the top 70 to get to the third playoff event north of Chicago at Conway Farms, his home course.

"First things first, I've got to get to Conway, which is obviously a place I'm very familiar with, my home course up in Chicago," Donald said. "So keep playing some solid golf I'll get there."

Donald said it was tough to make birdies, and those are words rarely spoken on glorious days such as this one at the TPC Boston. A front came through that made temperatures pleasant, though the wind was strong at times in the morning and a few pins were on knobs.

Phil Mickelson, in dire need of a big week to bolster any chance of being picked for the Presidents Cup, had a pair of three-putt bogeys and shot 70.

"It was the most challenging I've seen this golf course play, especially given that



Jordan Spieth hits out of the sand trap on the 11th hole during the first round of the Deutsche Bank Championship golf tournament in Norton, Mass., Friday, Sept. 4, 2015.

Associated Press

the greens were very receptive," Mickelson said. "But I played pretty good golf today. I hit a lot of good shots and I hit a few bad ones, but they weren't too bad. And it was an OK start."

Day looked like he might birdie them all after three holes. Ultimately, he knew

that 68 was a decent start. He stuffed his approach on No. 10 to 4 feet. He hit a towering 4-iron to 10 feet for birdie on the par-3 11th. He rolled in a 20-foot birdie on No. 12. And when his birdie putt caught the lip on No. 15, Day flipped his putter into the air in shock. He must have felt he was

going to make them all.

"I was making everything I looked at, and then it slowly dried up," Day said. "It was a very patient day. You can't get out there and be so disappointed. Once you're frustrated you're going to make some mental errors and it's going to be bad for you." □

Twins bullpen falters in loss to Chisox, key road trip looms

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — J.B. Shuck's two-run, pinch-hit triple in the seventh inning lifted the Chicago White Sox over Minnesota.

Eddie Rosario hit a grand slam for the Twins, who fell 1½ games behind idle Texas for the second AL wild-card spot. Minnesota now starts a nine-game trip to division leaders Houston and Kansas City and wraps up at the White Sox.

Shuck's liner off reliever Casey Fien (4-6) made it 5-4 and helped Chicago win for just the second time in 10 games at Target Field this season.

Jeff Samardzija (9-11) ended his six-game losing streak. David Robertson got his 28th save in 34 chances.

ROYALS 15, TIGERS 7

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Lorenzo Cain hit a three-run homer, Paulo Orlando added a two-run shot and



Chicago White Sox pinch hitter J.B. Shuck, right, celebrates his two-run, go-ahead triple off Minnesota Twins relief pitcher Casey Fien with third base coach Joe McEwing in the seventh inning of a baseball game, Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015, in Minneapolis.

Associated Press

Kendrys Morales drove in wrapped up another series four runs as Kansas City win.

Ben Zobrist drove in two runs for the Royals, whose

15 runs and 20 hits were their most since piling up 21 hits in a 16-8 victory at Colorado on July 3, 2011.

Chris Young (10-6) earned the win with two scoreless innings in relief of Edinson Volquez, who yielded six runs, eight hits and a walk in three innings.

Tigers starter Matt Boyd was hammered for six runs before getting the hook four batters into the second inning.

Reliever Kyle Ryan (1-3) was tagged with the loss as Detroit pitchers allowed 61 runs during a 1-5 trip through Toronto and Kansas City.

Nick Castellanos drove in three runs for the Tigers.

After dropping the series opener, the Royals managed 34 hits and 27 runs in taking the next two games. That allowed the AL Central leaders to extend their unbeaten streak to eight straight series. □

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NL Capsules

Ryan Zimmerman stays hot as Nationals rout Braves 15-1



Washington Nationals' Ryan Zimmerman hits a two-run single against Atlanta Braves relief pitcher Andrew McKirahan during the third inning of a baseball game at Nationals Park, Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015, in Washington. Nationals' Jayson Werth and Anthony Rendon scored on this hit.

Associated Press

The Associated Press WASHINGTON (AP)

— Bryce Harper walked all four times he came to the plate and scored each time as Washington sent Atlanta to its ninth straight loss, 15-1 Thursday night. Ryan Zimmerman kept up his torrid stretch with three hits and four RBIs and Jordan Zimmermann (12-8) pitched six solid innings. The Nationals moved within six games of the first-place Mets in the NL East. The Braves have lost 16 of 17.

Harper joined Larry Doby (1951), Joe Morgan (1973) and Rickey Henderson (1989) as the only players to score four runs without an official at-bat since 1914, according to STATS. Rookie Matt Wisler (5-6) is 0-5 with a 9.49 ERA in his last seven starts.

BREWERS 5, PIRATES 3

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Taylor Jungmann pitched six strong innings as Milwaukee completed a sweep and beat Pittsburgh for

the sixth straight time overall.

The three losses at Miller Park dropped the Pirates 6½ games behind the NL Central-leading Cardinals. Pittsburgh opens a three-game series at St. Louis on Friday night.

Jungmann (9-5) gave up one run and three hits. Francisco Rodriguez closed for his 33rd save in 34 chances.

Francisco Liriano (9-7) took the loss.

ROCKIES 11, GIANTS 3

DENVER (AP) — Carlos Gonzalez homered twice for the second straight night and Chris Rusin pitched a complete game for Colorado.

Gonzalez hit two two-run homers to take the NL lead with a career-high 35. He finished with four hits and drove in four runs to lead Colorado's season-high 19-hit effort.

Nolan Arenado of the Rockies homered for the fourth consecutive game. Gonzalez's big night

helped extend San Francisco's losing streak to six games.

Gonzalez, who hit a grand slam and a two-run homer in his last two at-bats against Arizona on Wednesday, went deep off Ryan Vogelsong in Colorado's four-run first. He greeted reliever George Kontos with a shot down the right-field line in the fourth to give Colorado a 9-2 lead. He has 11 RBIs in his last two games.

Gonzalez has 16 career multi-homer games in his career, including six this season which have all come since July 24. He doubled in the second and singled in the ninth ahead of Arenado's 34th homer.

Vogelsong (9-11) allowed eight runs — seven earned — on 11 hits in three-plus innings.

Rusin (5-7) allowed three runs and six hits and struck out five.

PADRES 10, DODGERS 7

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Jedd

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SEPTEMBER 3 - 9

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MON-THURS 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25
FRI 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25 | 11:45
SAT 2:25 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25 | 11:45
SUN & HOL 2:25 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25

MAMIE GUMMER | MERYL STREEP

RICKI LASH

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG-13

MON-THURS 4:30 | 6:50 | 9:10
FRI 4:30 | 6:50 | 9:10 | 11:30
SAT 2:10 | 4:30 | 6:50 | 9:10 | 11:30
SUN & HOL 2:10 | 4:30 | 6:50 | 9:10

ADAM COOPER | BILL COLLAGE

THE TRANSPORTER REFUELED

MON-THURS 8:00
FRI 8:00 | 10:20
SAT 8:00 | 10:20
SUN & HOL 8:00

LAKE BELL | OWEN WILSON

NO RESCUE. NO REFUGE. NO ESCAPE

MON-THURS 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30
FRI 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50
SAT 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30

JAMES RANSONE | SHANNYN SOSSAMON

SINISTER II

MON-THURS 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25
FRI 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25 | 11:40
SAT 2:40 | 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25 | 11:40
SUN & HOL 2:40 | 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25

O'SHEA JACKSON JR. | COREY HAWKINS

STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON

MON-THURS 5:50 | 8:50
FRI 5:50 | 8:50
SAT 2:50 | 5:50 | 8:50
SUN & HOL 2:50 | 5:50 | 8:50

RUPERT FRIEND | HANNAH WARE

HITMAN AGENT 47

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG-13

MON-THURS 5:00 | 7:20 | 9:40
FRI 5:00 | 7:20 | 9:40 | 12:00
SAT 2:40 | 5:00 | 7:20 | 9:40 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 2:40 | 5:00 | 7:20 | 9:40

ED HELMS | CHRISTINA APPLEGATE

VACATION

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG-13

MON 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20
FRI 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SAT 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20

TOM CRUISE | JEREMY RENNER

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE ROGUE NATION

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FRI 5:05
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SUN & HOL 2:10 | 5:05

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Gyorko hit a two-run homer and Yangervis Solarte had four hits to lead San Diego.

With San Diego trailing 7-6 entering the eighth inning, Jim Johnson (2-6) walked leadoff hitter Justin Upton before Gyorko followed with 11th homer.

Kevin Quackenbush (3-2) pitched two scoreless innings to earn the victory. Joaquin Benoit retired the side in the ninth for his second save.

San Diego scored two

runs in each of the first two innings against Dodgers starter Mat Latos, who allowed four runs in four innings and has not won a game since being acquired by Los Angeles on July 30.

Odrisamer Despaigne and Marc Rzepczynski allowed five runs in the sixth as the Dodgers built a 7-4 lead.

Solarte hit a solo home run to pull San Diego within 7-6. Solarte had two doubles and a single. □

Deflategate

Continued from Page 17

The NFL is appealing the decision to the 2nd U.S. District Court of Appeals, a process that will likely play out much more slowly than the urgency afforded the initial lawsuits. And while Brady plays, the league's appeal won't focus on footballs or the quarterback, but on disagreements with Berman. During the case, the NFL argued that a federal judge must defer to the judgment of an arbitrator who was properly chosen in a process spelled out in the collective bargaining agreement between the players' union and the NFL. An appeal on the same grounds would argue Berman went too far, that federal courts can only overturn an arbitrator's award if there's an extreme offense and Goodell's mistakes weren't serious enough to flip the suspension. Berman followed a path he outlined during two hearings when he hammered the league, saying Goodell went "far beyond" the investigative conclusions of attorney Ted Wells. The report from Wells said Brady was likely "generally aware" of the plot; Goodell later said Brady

"knew about, approved of, consented to and provided inducements and rewards" to support the scheme.

Without addressing the points later, Berman recapped portions of Wells' report and arguments made by an NFL attorney that there were signs Brady was involved, despite no smoking gun.

The judge also referred to Brady's extensive testimony to Goodell about his preferences for footballs — testimony that was released as a result of the litigation. Berman said he reviewed the testimony, but offered nothing more about its contents.

The June testimony by Brady included terse moments when asked about anything related to inflation of footballs.

Did he ever consider ball inflation in choosing game balls?

"Never," Brady said.

Did he ever discuss the inflation of footballs with a ball handler?

"Never."

In his entire career, did he ever ask the Patriots to alter footballs once he approved them?

"No."

But Brady had plenty to say about the extensive process of preparing footballs and the importance of getting the right grip and



In this Feb. 2, 2015, file photo, New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady poses with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell during a news conference after NFL football's Super Bowl XLIX in Phoenix, Ariz.

Associated Press

feel. He said one of the team's equipment employees, John Jastremski, used sandpaper, dirt and even leather conditioner obtained from one of Brady's college coaches. Jastremski and another equipment employee were fired by the Patriots over the deflations.

Under questioning from Goodell, Brady said he was told about inflation levels after a rainy game against

the New York Jets last season, because he hated the game balls.

The quarterback got angry, he said "because I didn't like — for the first time in my career, I didn't like the way the football felt."

It turned out the balls had been inflated to 16 pounds per square inch — well above the 12 1/2 to 13 1/2 psi allowed by the rule book.

Brady said he told the

equipment manager to make sure referees saw the air-inflation rules before games "because really I don't want that to ever happen again."

Before the AFC championship game, Brady said he did something unprecedented because of a bad weather forecast: He decided 36 hours before game time to break in new balls to try to avoid the problems he had during the Jets game.

But when questioned about the inflation of balls that day, the terse answers came back. Brady said "no" when asked whether he said anything to Jastremski about the pressure levels or whether he suggested anything about pressure at any level.

Without addressing Brady, Berman said the NFL overreached.

At one hearing, the judge said he didn't see the "-gate" in "Deflategate," the nickname bestowed on the scandal as it morphed into a mini-soap opera. At another hearing, Berman referred to the controversy as the "deflation situation." Berman said he was overturning the NFL's suspension of Brady because the player was never warned he could face suspension and because of "several significant legal deficiencies" in the NFL's treatment of Brady. □



Lampre's Nelson Oliveira of Portugal, left, raises his arms after winning the 13th stage between Calatayud and Tarazona, 178 kilometers (110.6 miles), of the Spanish Vuelta cycling race that finish in Tarazona, northern Spain, Friday, Sept. 4, 2015.

Associated Press

Oliveira of Portugal wins 13th Vuelta stage, Aru keeps lead

TARAZONA, Spain (AP) — Nelson Oliveira of Portugal sped away to win the 13th stage of the Spanish Vuelta, while Fabio Aru kept his lead on Friday before the Grand Tour enters three straight days in the mountains. Oliveira broke free from an escape group of 24 riders with around 20 kilometers (12 miles) to go on the hilly 178-kilometer (110-mile) ride from Calatayud to Tarazona.

The Lampre-Merida rider had time to savor his first international win. He slowed down, zipped up his maillot, and bowed to the crowd as he crossed a minute ahead of the chasing pack. "This is one of the

happiest days of my life, my first international win and to get it on the Vuelta," he said. "I had circled this stage on the calendar. Those were the longest 20 kilometers of my life." Aru finished in the peloton with the remaining main rivals following the expulsion of Astana teammate Vincenzo Nibali and Chris Froome's withdrawal due to a broken foot. Spain's Joaquim Rodriguez remained in second place at 27 seconds behind the Italian leader. Dutchman Tom Dumoulin was 30 seconds back, while former champion Alejandro Valverde was sixth at 1 minute, 52 seconds off Aru's pace. □

Toyota to invest \$50M in car-tech research at Stanford, MIT

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Technology Writer
EAST PALO ALTO, Calif. (AP)

— Toyota is investing \$50 million with Stanford University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in hopes of gaining an edge in an accelerating race to phase out human drivers. The financial commitment announced Friday by the Japanese automaker will be made over the next five years at joint research centers located in Silicon Valley and another technology hub in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Toyota has hired robotics expert Gill Pratt to oversee research aimed at developing artificial intelligence and other innovations that will enable future car models to navigate the roads without people doing all the steering and stopping.

"We believe this research will transform the future of mobility, improving safety and reducing traffic congestion," said Kiyotaka Ise, a Toyota executive who oversees the company's research and development group.

Unlike some of its rivals in the technology and auto industries, Toyota believes the day when cars are able to drive entirely by themselves is unlikely to arrive within the next decade. The company instead is focusing its efforts on developing technology that can turn a car into the equivalent of an intelligent assistant that recognizes when it should take over the steering when a driver is distracted or automatically play a favorite song when it detects a driver is in a bad mood.

"What if cars could become our trusted partners?" mused Daniela Rus, an MIT professor who will lead the university's research partnership with the automaker. Major tech companies such as Google and Uber are competing against a range of automakers to make robot cars that will be better drivers than people and save lives by causing fewer accidents.

Google, which runs some



This Feb. 16, 2012 file photo shows a Toyota ornament on a vehicle on display at the Pittsburgh Auto Show.

Associated Press

of the world's most popular online services, has been working on a fleet of self-driving cars for the past six years. Its goal is to have the cars capable of driving completely on their own by 2020. Ride-hailing pioneer Uber has teamed up with Carnegie Mellon University on a Pittsburgh research center in its quest to build driverless cars.

Toyota Motor Co. has been working on autonomous driving technology for about 20 years, but it was known as "advanced driving support" back in the 1990s, Ise said.

Pratt, a former program manager at the U.S. government's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, or DARPA, suspects many people will still want to drive some of the time even when cars are fully equipped to handle the task. He hopes Toyota's research will give the option of relying on computers to do the job when they are stuck in traffic or traveling down a boring stretch of highway. "Our focus today is more on the autonomy of people," said Pratt, who will be based in

Silicon Valley.

Under the Toyota partnership, the MIT research center will focus on inventing ways for cars to recognize their surroundings and make decisions that avert potential accidents. If the goals are realized, Toyota might be able to build a car "that is never responsible for a collision," Rus said. Besides working on recognition technology, the

Stanford research center will try to create artificial intelligence programs that study human behavior to learn more about the decision making and reasoning that goes into driving so cars can quickly adjust to potentially dangerous situations. Stanford's research will be led by Fei-Fei Li, director of the university's artificial intelligence laboratory. Not far away from

Stanford, both General Motors Co. and Ford Motor Co. have established offices in Palo Alto, California, in their own quests to make smarter cars.

Meanwhile, just to the south, Google's self-driving cars are regularly cruising the roads of the company's hometown of Mountain View, California, during ongoing testing of the vehicles. □

BlackBerry will buy security company Good Tech for \$425M

NEW YORK (AP) — BlackBerry said Friday that it will make another security-related acquisition, buying Good Technology for \$425 million in cash.

BlackBerry, once known for making smartphones, is now trying to focus on software that lets IT departments manage mobile devices. The company said Good Technology will help it offer a unified secure platform for mobile devices that runs on any operating system. It said Good Technology has about \$160

million in annual revenue, while BlackBerry has reported about \$3 billion in revenue in its last four fiscal quarters. The Canadian company expects to complete the purchase by the end of November.

Earlier this year BlackBerry Ltd. bought WatchDox, a provider of secure enterprise file-sync-and-share technology, and agreed to buy AtHoc, a software company that develops emergency alert systems for government agencies, military bodies,

and other organizations. The company also announced a round of job cuts earlier this year as it restructures its business and deals with weak smartphone sales. BlackBerry has eliminated thousands of jobs in the last few years under CEO John Chen, who has focused on reducing costs and increasing innovation.

U.S. shares of BlackBerry rose 10 cents to \$7.56 in midday trading Friday. The stock has fallen 28 percent over the past year. □

Wall Street dips; jobs report clouds rate outlook

STEVE ROTHWELL

Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — It's an old adage that investors hate uncertainty. Unfortunately for them, they got more of it on Friday. The stock market has been volatile for weeks on con-

The report showed that the U.S. unemployment rate fell to a seven-year low in August, but also that employers added fewer jobs than forecast.

"It's interesting and disappointing that today's data didn't provide us with that

the stock market, supporting a bull run that has lasted for more than six years. On Friday, the S&P 500 ended the week down 3.4 percent, its second-worst weekly drop of the year. The index is down nearly 10 percent from its peak of

Management Research at UBS.

Trading volume was lighter than usual ahead of the Labor Day holiday. U.S. markets will be closed on Monday in observance of the holiday. However, the Chinese stock market, which has been closed for a two-day holiday, will re-open.

Among individual stocks, Netflix continued its slide on Friday. The company's stock has slumped for six straight days and closed the week down 16 percent on speculation that competition from rivals including Amazon and Hulu is intensifying. Variety also reported Monday that Apple is exploring a move into original programming.

Bond prices edged up after the jobs report, pushing the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note down to 2.13 percent from 2.16 percent on Thursday. In Europe, the FTSE 100 index of leading British shares was down 2.4 percent, Germany's DAX fell 2.7 percent. The CAC-40 in France was 2.8 percent lower.

The euro edged up to \$1.1151. The dollar fell 1 percent against the Japanese currency, to 118.99 yen.

In metals trading, the price of gold fell \$3.10 to settle at \$1,121.50 an ounce, silver fell 16 cents to \$14.54 an ounce and copper declined seven cents to \$2.32 a pound.

The price of oil fell along with stocks but pared its losses after a closely watched count of active drilling rigs in the U.S. fell. Crude declined 70 cents to close at \$46.05 a barrel in New York. □



Trader Luke Scanlon works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. It's an old adage that investors hate uncertainty. Unfortunately for them, they got more of it on Friday, dragging U.S. indexes down to close the week.
(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

cern that China's economy is slowing more rapidly than previously thought. But investors have also had to contend with uncertainty about the outlook for interest rates. Investors had been hoping that the government's August jobs report would give them more clarity on interest rates, before a key Federal Reserve meeting later this month. However, a mixed report left them guessing as to whether policymakers will feel confident enough about the strength of the U.S. economy to raise interest rates from historic lows.

"Ah-ha!" clarity that everyone is seeking," said Michael Arone, Chief Investment Strategist at State Street Global Advisors. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 272.38 points, or 1.7 percent, to 16,102.38. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gave up 29.91 points, or 1.5 percent, to 1,921.22. The Nasdaq composite slipped 49.58 points, or 1.1 percent, to 4,683.92. Fed policymakers have kept their benchmark interest rate close to zero since late 2008 to help revive the economy after the Great Recession. Those low rates have also been good for

2,130.82 reached May 21. Much of the damage this week was done on Tuesday, after gloomy manufacturing data out of China rekindled fears about the health of the world's second-largest economy. But despite the big drop in stocks, some strategists say that much of the evidence suggests the U.S. economy is maintaining its recovery. A report this week showed robust growth in the service industry.

"As China is sneezing, there is very little to suggest that the U.S. is catching a cold," said Jeremy Zirin, chief U.S. equity strategist for Wealth

Canada dismisses Chevron appeal in Ecuador eco-case

C. NORONHA

Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — The Supreme Court of Canada on Friday dismissed an attempt by oil giant Chevron to block Ecuadorian villagers from using an Ontario court to collect billions in damages over rainforest pollution.

The 7-0 ruling allows the case to proceed.

The lead attorney for the plaintiffs, Pablo Fajardo, said the ruling "isn't just any triumph. We've won in a country that is among the most credible in the world for its judicial transparency."

Lawyers have fought for years in several countries over who's responsible for pollution in the Ecuadorian rain forest. They have argued that the case should be heard in Canada because U.S.-based Chevron has a Canadian subsidiary. In February 2011, a judge in Ecuador issued an \$18 billion judgment against Chevron in a lawsuit brought on behalf of 30,000 residents. The judgment was for environmental damage caused by Texaco during its operation of an oil consortium in the rainforest from 1972 to 1990. Chevron later bought Texaco.

Ecuador's highest court later upheld the verdict but reduced the judgment to about \$9.5 billion.

Chevron argues that a 1998 agreement Texaco signed with Ecuador after a \$40 million cleanup absolves it of liability. It claims Ecuador's state-run oil company is responsible for much of the pollution in the oil patch that Texaco quit more than two decades ago.

The key issue at hand regarding Friday's ruling was whether there was a real and substantial connection between the villagers and their dispute and the province of Ontario.

The high court decided there was no need to prove that connection, as long as a foreign court assumed valid jurisdiction over a case. □

Home decorating retailer At Home files for IPO

NEW YORK (AP) — At Home Group, a chain of stores that sells furniture, rugs and other home goods, said Friday that it plans to become a publicly-traded company.

The company, founded in 1979, was formerly called Garden Ridge until it changed its name last

year. At Home has 94 stores around the country. Stores opened at least a year averaged more than \$6 million in sales annually, the company said. Its average store is 120,000 square feet. The retailer did not say how many shares it expects to sell in an initial public offering, or how much they will

cost, or when it will happen. It said it expects to raise as much as \$100 million, but that number will likely change. It plans to use the money raised to pay off debt. At Home expects to list its stock on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol "HOME." The company re-

ported a loss of \$436,000 in the year ending Jan. 31, 2015, narrower than its loss of \$22.3 million the previous year. In the latest year, its revenue rose 23 percent to \$497.7 million. Based in Plano, Texas, At Home Group Inc. also sells Christmas decorations, wall art, frames and plants. □

China's stock rescue plan jolts companies, reform plans

JOE McDONALD
AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Tonhe Electronics is a casualty of Beijing's frantic effort to stop a stock market bust.

The maker of electrical equipment, part of a technology industry the ruling Communist Party wants to promote, hoped to raise 200 million yuan (\$32 million) from an initial public offering of stock to build a research and development center.

Then share prices collapsed and Beijing canceled stock sales by Tonhe and more than two dozen other companies as part of its desperate effort to stem the slide. Now the company in the central city of Shijiazhuang is in limbo.

"We have no other fundraising plans," said a Tonhe investor relations representative who would give only her surname, Zhuang. "What we can do now is just wait for the notice to get the IPO started again." Beijing's scramble to put a floor under free-falling share prices came at a cost China has yet to tally. The boom and bust passed so fast it had little impact on consumer spending. But on top of the public money plowed into buying shares, the intervention disrupted fundraising for small companies and set back efforts to make the stock market a tool for economic reform. State agencies and companies charged with buy-

ing shares to prop up prices has yet to announce what it bought or how much it spent. In a report last month, Goldman Sachs estimated that group, dubbed the "National Team" by financial analysts, spent 860-900 billion yuan (\$135-\$140 billion) in June and July.

That led to state-owned companies amassing a mountain of shares in other government enterprises, many bought from private investors. That reversed an official campaign to encourage the public to buy shares in hopes "diverse ownership" of state companies will prod them to become competitive and efficient. "The state, through its rescue, has further increased its ownership of the stock market," said economist Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics. "They have gone directly against their longer-term reform goals." The collapse that saw China's main stock index plunge 30 percent after hitting a peak June 12 prompted ruling party leaders under President Xi Jinping to set aside repeated pledges to give market forces a bigger role in the economy.

Regulators canceled IPOs planned by 28 private companies in electronics, food processing and other industries. The 21 that had disclosed details were planning to raise a total of about 8.8 billion yuan (\$1.4



An elderly Chinese man walks past display boards showing the latest stock prices at a brokerage in Beijing. Beijing's scramble to put a floor under free-falling share prices came at a cost China has yet to tally.

(AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

billion). The industries affected play a leading role in the ruling party's plans to transform China from a low-wage factory into a creator of technology and consumer brands with higher-paying jobs and environmentally friendly growth. Thinker Automation Ltd., a maker of control systems for railways and other industries in the central province of Henan, planned to raise 1.3 billion yuan (\$205 million) to expand operations.

Many are in areas away from the prosperous east coast where communist leaders are eager to spur development. Toly Bread

Ltd. In Shenyang, the biggest city in the rust-belt northeast, wanted 620 million yuan (\$99 million) to expand production and sales of baked goods.

Regulators have begun allowing companies that already are traded to raise money through sales of additional shares but there has been no word on when IPOs might resume.

Analysts saw no "wealth effect" or uptick in consumer spending when the market index more than doubled in value between November and June. They said that should mean little change as share prices sagged. After the first major

market fall, July's growth in retail spending held steady at June's 10.5 percent rate. Wang Pinyue, a piano teacher in the northeastern city of Harbin, said he lost 75 to 80 percent of the 5,000 yuan (\$800) he invested. Even though that was equal to half of last year's income, Wang said it hasn't affected his spending.

"But if I had invested more and lost more, I sure would be in a bad mood and short of money. I might cancel a trip or something," said Wang, 26.

One reason for the limited effect is the nascent popularity of investing among China's public. □

Central banks falling short of 2 percent inflation target



President of European Central Bank Mario Draghi speaks during a news conference in Frankfurt, Germany.

(AP Photo/Michael Probst)

JOSH BOAK
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Is 2 percent inflation too high to reach? The Federal Reserve and European Cen-

tral Bank have been striving to generate a small dose of inflation — around 2 percent annually, just enough to spur more spending and income but not so much

that prices surge out of control. Both central banks are consistently failing.

And so the question has arisen of whether the Fed and the ECB should recognize that 2 percent inflation in a global economy awash in cheap oil, available workers and money-saving technologies might be too ambitious and should lower their targets. ECB President Mario Draghi faced that very question at a news conference Thursday in Frankfurt, Germany. Draghi was having none of it, at least publicly.

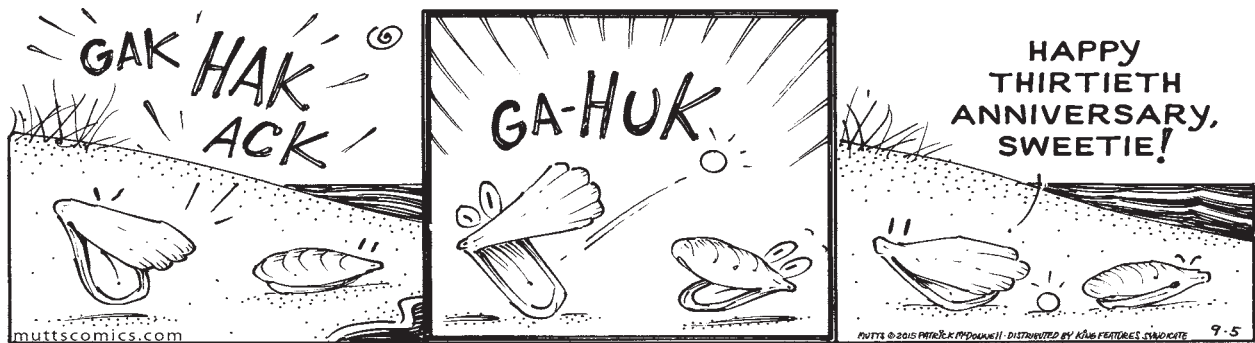
He said that lowering the ECB's 2 percent inflation target would represent an admission of failure that could damage the central bank's authority.

"It will test our credibility if we were to change our target, when it's taking more effort to achieve that target," he said.

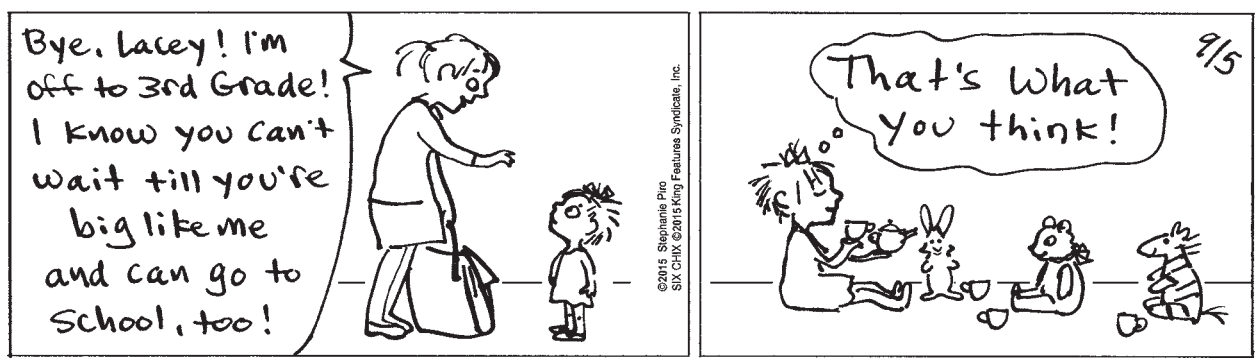
In the 19 European countries that share the euro currency, annual inflation is a scant 0.2 percent. In the United States, the Fed's preferred inflation measure is 0.3 percent. U.S. inflation hasn't breached 2 percent

in more than three years. The major central banks' historically low interest rates and mass bond purchases have failed to offset the pressures of lower energy prices and tepid consumer demand. When the Fed ends its next policy meeting on Sept. 17, it will announce whether it's raising U.S. interest rates after nearly seven years of record lows. In calculating that decision, the Fed must weigh its confidence that inflation will return eventually to 2 percent — one of its mandates. □

Mutts



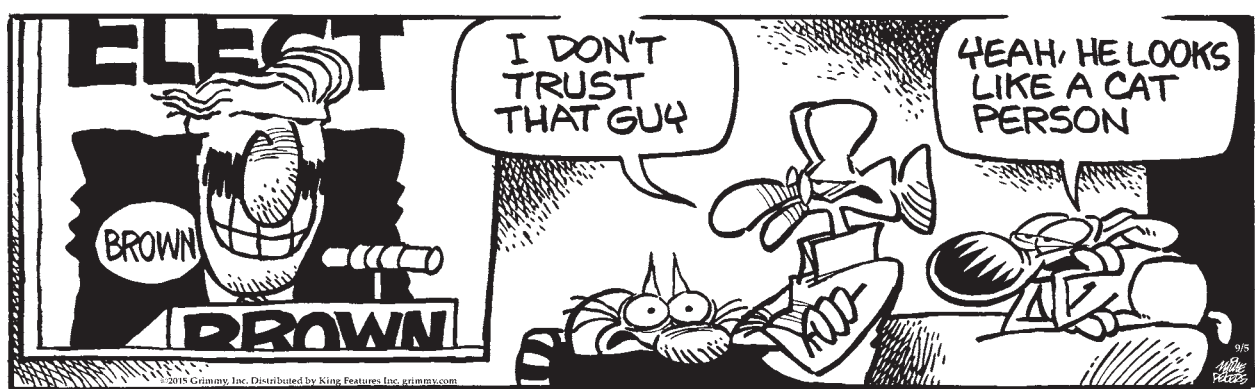
6 Chix



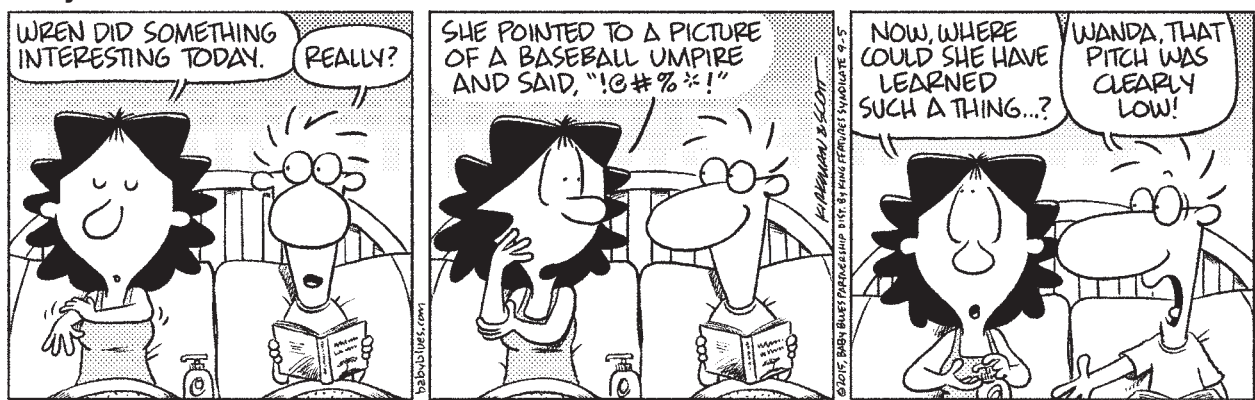
Blondie



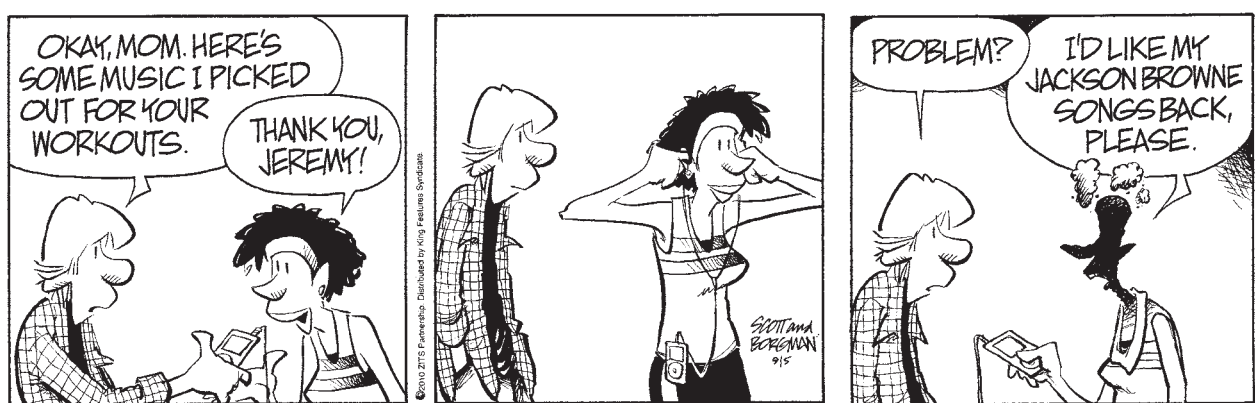
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			3		4			
		6				4		
	5		6	7		1		
9	1					3		5
			6					
2	3				7			8
	9		5	1		4		
	7				8			
			4	2				

Difficulty Level ★★☆☆

9/05

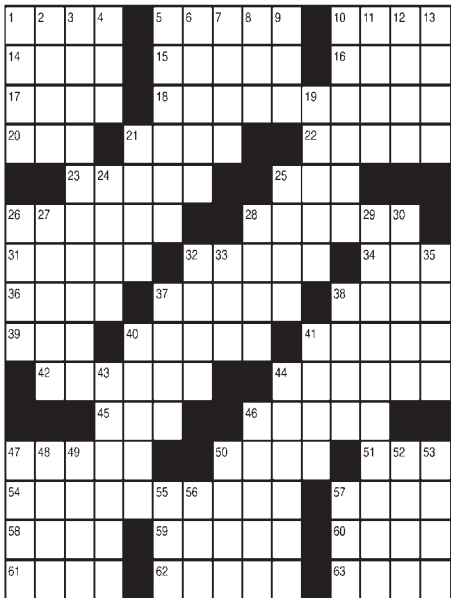
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	5	3	8	9	2	7	1	4
2	4	9	6	1	7	5	3	8
1	7	8	4	3	5	6	2	9
7	1	5	9	6	4	3	8	2
3	8	4	7	2	1	9	5	6
9	2	6	5	8	3	1	4	7
8	3	7	1	4	9	2	6	5
5	6	1	2	7	8	4	9	3
4	9	2	3	5	6	8	7	1

ACROSS

- 1 Large waterbird
- 5 Send in payment
- 10 ___ of the Apostles; biblical book
- 14 Family member
- 15 Leave ___; refrain from bothering
- 16 Give a hoot
- 17 Catch sight of
- 18 Lively ragtime dance
- 20 Actor Daniel ___ Kim
- 21 Movement of the waves
- 22 Deposes
- 23 Lake near Reno
- 25 Letters before an alias
- 26 Source; seed
- 28 Lives; resides
- 31 Labyrinths
- 32 Iron alloy
- 34 Cry of discovery
- 36 Tyrant Amin and others
- 37 Tempted
- 38 Flat-bottomed boat
- 39 Cheap metal
- 40 Desert drifter
- 41 Asparagus bit
- 42 Mean woman in a fairy tale
- 44 Once every sixty minutes
- 45 Donkey
- 46 Bamboo eater
- 47 Bona fide
- 50 Picture card
- 51 Brown shade
- 54 Humble
- 57 TV's "What's My ___?"
- 58 Sculptor's tool
- 59 Island nation south of Sicily
- 60 Greek letter
- 61 Secondhand
- 62 Role player
- 63 In a ___; miffed



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/5/15

Friday's Puzzle Solved

DOWN

- 1 Drove too fast
- 2 "Fuzzy Wuzzy" bear...
- 3 Yummy-looking
- 4 Negative vote
- 5 ___ out; mete
- 6 Escape detection by
- 7 Additional amount
- 8 Pen contents
- 9 Golf ball holder
- 10 Real
- 11 Jaguar & Jetta
- 12 Horse's gait
- 13 ___ up; arranges
- 19 Bumpkin
- 21 ___ and that
- 24 Matures
- 25 Wonder-struck
- 26 Leave out
- 27 Standard car feature
- 28 Owner's paper
- 29 Deep cut
- 30 Sandbank
- 32 Totals
- 33 Refrain syllable

JAM	KILTS	FLAP
ICER	IDIOT	IOWA
GENE	DELTA	EVES
STAGNATES	LESS	
DEAL	HAD	
UPKEEP	FLIPSIDE	
SUERS	PLANT	RIB
URNS	PRONG	SONS
RST	PROUD	TINGE
PESKIE	ST PERSON	
INN	COAL	
SCAB	ALBATROSS	
TODO	TOAST	IOTA
ENDS	ABATE	NOAH
MESH	LOSER	NBA

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9/5/15

- 35 Amiss; wrong
- 37 At a ___ for words; silent
- 38 Idaho export
- 40 Robins' homes
- 41 Tune
- 43 Reared, as kids
- 44 Airplane shelter
- 46 Bean type
- 47 Outdoor feast
- 48 Conclusions
- 49 Stare
- 50 Scottish skirt
- 52 One opposed
- 53 Tidy
- 55 Ms. Thurman
- 56 Late Bernie ___
- 57 Fleur-de-___

2 men claiming to have found Nazi gold train go on Polish TV

MONIKA SCISLOWSKA
Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Two men appeared on Polish TV Friday saying they are the finders of a Nazi train said to be laden with gold — a claim that came as the Polish military inspected the alleged site in southwestern Poland.

Identifying themselves as Andreas Richter and Piotr Koper, the men appeared on TVP.INFO.

Contacted by The Associated Press by phone, Richter confirmed he had found the train.

Authorities in the southwestern city of Walbrzych said last month that two men had contacted them through lawyers claiming they had found an armored train that possibly contains valuables and weapons. The report sparked a gold rush around Walbrzych, where tales have circulated since World War II that the Nazis hid a train full of gold from the Soviet Army in early 1945.

"As the finders of a World War II armored train, we, Andreas Richter and Piotr Koper, declare that we have legally informed state authorities about the find and have precisely indicated the location in the presence of Walbrzych authorities and the police," Koper said, reading a statement on TV with Rich-



Polish military officials inspect the site where, according to two men, a World War II armored train is hidden in the ground, in Walbrzych, Poland, on Friday, Sept. 4, 2015. Two men appeared Friday on Polish TV saying they are the finders of a Nazi train said to be laden with gold — a claim that came as the Polish military inspected the alleged site in southwest Poland.

(AP Photo/Krystian Maj)

ter sitting at his side. "We have irrefutable proof of its existence."

Their knowledge is based on information from witnesses and on their own research, carried out with their own equipment, Koper said in his statement. They claimed that a leak to the media was behind the public knowledge of their find.

Retired miner Tadeusz Slowikowski, the only living source of the train legend, confirmed to the AP on Fri-

day that Koper and Richter had visited him saying they had located it and were going to report the find to the authorities. He had previously refused to identify them.

He said the site was near the 65th kilometer of railway tracks from Wroclaw to Walbrzych, near where he believes the train went missing and where he was searching in 2001 but only came across what he believed was the supporting wall of a tunnel. □

Classifieds

TIMESHARE FOR SALE RENAISSANCE

Week	room	price
26	507	\$3,500
26	543	\$5,300
40	105	\$5000
48/49	119	\$4,500
23	343	\$3,000
35	314	\$4,000
30	515	\$4,900
30	311	\$5,000
23	343	\$4,500
27	103	\$4,000
29	134	\$4,500
20&21	347	\$4,500
27	341	\$4,000

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SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
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FIRE DEPT.	115
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PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

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Freewinds



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Boeing names its new Apollo-style spacecraft the Starliner



On the screen at left is a rendering of the CST-100 Starliner. The building was formerly a processing facility for the space shuttle.

Associated Press

MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.
(AP) — Boeing already has the Dreamliner. Now it also has the Starliner.

The aerospace giant announced the name of its future space fleet Friday. More than 200 people, including Florida Gov. Rick Scott, NASA and Boeing

officials, and a bevy of former astronauts, gathered at NASA's Kennedy Space Center to celebrate the grand opening of Boeing's commercial crew and cargo processing facility. Once a space shuttle hangar, the transformed building will serve as home to the Starliner. Its first launch with a crew to the International Space Station is targeted for 2017. Until Friday, Boeing's still-under-development capsule was known simply as the CST-100, an abbreviation for Crew Space Transportation and 100 kilometers, the threshold of space. Boeing is one of two private U.S. companies contract-

ed by NASA to transport space station astronauts from Cape Canaveral. SpaceX, the other company, is developing an enhanced version of its cargo-carrying Dragon capsule — a super Dragon. That work is being carried out at its headquarters in Hawthorne, California. NASA wants its astronauts launching from U.S. soil again rather than hitching expensive rides from Kazakhstan with the Russian Space Agency. That hasn't happened since the last shuttle flight in 2011. The Starliner name was revealed by the commander of the last shuttle flight, Chris Ferguson, now depu-

ty manager of operations for Boeing's commercial crew program.

"We get asked a lot, 'When are you going to pick a name for that wonderful spacecraft?'" Ferguson told the crowd. "Well, I've always said, 'Just wait. It's coming.' Well, guess what? The wait is over."

"Please welcome the CST-100 Starliner," Ferguson said as a temporary wall behind him rose and revealed, to dramatic music and flashing lights, spacecraft sections that will be used for testing.

In choosing the name, Boeing wanted to give a nod to the next generation of space and the next 100 years of flight for Boeing, Ferguson said. The Chicago-based company will mark its 100th anniversary next summer.

NASA Administrator Charles Bolden Jr., also a former shuttle skipper, talked up the space agency's plans to send astronauts to Mars in the 2030s, with Boeing and SpaceX picking up the get-crews-to-orbit slack.

"If you're not excited, then there's something wrong with you, to be quite honest," Bolden said.

The most senior astronaut present, Gemini and Apollo's Thomas Stafford, liked what he saw.

"It's a great name," said Stafford, 79, who flew to the moon on Apollo 10, two months before the first manned moon landing in 1969. He said the spacecraft is reminiscent of the capsules from the Apollo moon program.

NASA's commercial crew contract with Boeing to certify, test and fly the Starliner capsules totals \$4.2 billion. The SpaceX contract is worth \$2.6 billion. □



Johnny Depp wows Venice in gritty gangster tale 'Black Mass'

JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

VENICE, Italy (AP) — It's Johnny Depp's day at the Venice Film Festival. Judging by the acclaim greeting his performance in gangster drama "Black Mass," it may turn out to be Johnny Depp's year.

A pallid, blond and balding Depp is virtually unrecognizable as real-life Boston mobster James "Whitey" Bulger, who built up a criminal empire while acting as a longtime FBI informant — or "professional criminal consultant," as one character puts it.

Depp's Bulger is charismatic, scarily calm and utterly ruthless. It's a remarkable transformation that could net him an Oscar nomination. But the actor says he has ready access to his dark side.

"I found the evil in myself a long time ago, and I've accepted it," Depp told reporters in Venice Friday. "We're old friends."

Some are calling "Black Mass" Depp's comeback film — though that would be news to the hundreds of Depp fans who camped out beside Venice's Palace of Cinema Friday, hours before the movie's red-carpet world premiere.

The Hollywood Reporter hailed Depp's Bulger as one of his best performances, calling him "charismatic ... fully convincing and frightening." Variety said

the "mesmerizing" turn was "a bracing return to form" after several under-performing films and years of "Pirates of the Caribbean"

in Boston during the 1970s and 80s. Bulger's brother Billy — played by Benedict Cumberbatch essaying a Boston accent — was

you're just watching a film and I wanted this to feel like surveillance," said Cooper, who also made the country-music drama "Cra-

his old friend in what I was doing."

"With a character like James Bulger, I think you have to approach him just as a human being," Depp said. "Nobody wakes up in the morning and shaves or brushes their teeth and looks in the mirror and thinks, 'I'm evil.'"

"He was complicated. ... He would take in little old ladies' groceries into the house, and then 10 minutes later he might be bashing someone's skull in."

Depp's role in the film, which opens in the U.S. Sept. 18, will draw comparisons to Marlon Brando's transformation into Don Corleone in "The Godfather." Depp likely won't mind. He said his heroes have always been chameleon-like actors — "John Barrymore and Lon Chaney Sr., and certainly Marlon Brando."

"I've always wanted to try to be a character actor, more than the poster boy that they tried to make me, about 100 years ago," said the 52-year-old former teen heart-throb.

"I find great safety but at the same time danger in trying to do these transformations. ... I think that's important also as an actor, to test yourself, challenge yourself each time. Take the chance that you may actually fall flat on your face and look like a complete ass." □



Actor Johnny Depp poses for photographers upon arrival at the premiere of the film *Black Mass* during the 72nd edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, Friday, Sept. 4, 2015. The 72nd edition of the festival runs until Sept. 12.

Associated Press

antics.

But "Black Mass" director Scott Cooper said that "as far as I'm concerned, Johnny hasn't gone anywhere." "Unlike most actors, Johnny takes a risk with every part he plays and I think he's very artistically courageous," Cooper told The Associated Press. "Clearly, he's a national treasure."

Cooper said he was fascinated by the "intersection of politics and crime"

a powerful state senator. His FBI contact was John Connolly (an intense Joel Edgerton), another tough South Boston kid torn between childhood loyalty and his duty as a lawman. Cooper tells the tale of power and betrayal without melodrama in a lean and at times bone-crunchingly violent film.

"I didn't want to have many stylistic flourishes, because then you know

zy Heart."

Bulger disappeared in 1995 and spent 16 years as one of the nation's most-wanted fugitives before he was captured in California in 2011. Now 86, he is serving life in prison.

Depp asked to meet him, a request he says Bulger "respectfully declined." But the actor was gratified when Bulger's attorney, J.W. Carney Jr., visited the set and "said he could feel

Chris Evans is feeling the pressure with directorial debut

NICOLE EVATT

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — What's got Captain America quaking in his boots?

Actor Chris Evans, known for playing the iconic Marvel superhero, is making his directorial debut with the indie film "Before We Go" and the stakes have never felt higher.

"I feel extra pressure every day of my life! Yeah, sure it's daunting. It's on you and I'm a first-timer so you know it's kind of trial by fire," said

Evans Wednesday.

The actor also stars in the romantic drama out Friday. The story follows aspiring musician Nick (Evans) whose chance encounter with Brooke (Alice Eve) leads to an all-night adventure in New York City.

Evans admitted that directing himself in a starring role was no easy task. He can't wait to give it another go, but is actually wishing for less screen time.

"Hopefully on the next one I can have a smaller role

where I can actually spend more time in the director's chair," he said. "This is actually very honest and painful and truthful, but no one is going to let me direct a movie unless I put myself in it. It's just the nature of how films are made right now."

While the newly minted director admitted that he's concerned about reviews, he is also prepared for some criticism.

"You always say you don't pay attention to that stuff, but anyone who says that is



In this Wed., Sept. 2, 2015 file photo, Chris Evans attends the LA Premiere of "Before We Go" held at Arclight Cinemas in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

lying," said Evans. "You've got to remember that careers can be long. Memo-

ries can be short. It doesn't have to all be now and that's OK," he said. □



In a March 4, 2015, file photo, singer Aretha Franklin is interviewed after a taping for American Idol XIV at The Fillmore Detroit.

Associated Press

Aretha Franklin blocks screening of doc at festival

NICHOLAS RICCARDI
Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Aretha Franklin earned some R-E-S-P-E-C-T in a federal courtroom on Friday, convincing a judge to prevent the Telluride Film Festival from screening a documentary about a 1972 concert of hers without the Queen of Soul's written consent. The 72-year-old singer testified via speakerphone from Detroit and said she's fought for years to prevent the screening of the movie, titled "Amazing Grace," about her concert in Los Angeles. She was aghast to discover Wednesday that the festival announced it would show the movie three times, with the first showing only a few hours before she spoke in court. "For him to show that film, for him to completely and blatantly ignore me would be terrible," she said of the film's producer, Alan Elliot, whom she sued in 2011 to prevent a prior showing of the movie. "For him to do that would encourage other people to do the same thing and have no respect for me." Attorneys for the film festival complained that Franklin's move came at the last minute — an agent who represents her had been told the film would appear two to three weeks ear-

lier — and that the screenings at a modest theater in a remote southwestern town wouldn't harm her. They also contended that a recently unearthed 1968 recording contract Franklin signed gave away rights to the footage of her concerts.

"There's a real, substantial likelihood that Ms. Franklin does not own the rights to the images in that picture," attorney Cecil Morris said. "It is not appropriate at the very last instant on a Friday afternoon before a 7:30 showing to seek this remedy."

Morris added an injunction would damage the reputation of the Telluride festival, which draws aficionados and industry types from across the country. "This is not a showing at Joe's Film Festival in Oil Trough, Arkansas," he said.

Judge John L. Kane said Franklin deserved the right to control how her image is used. "She would suffer immediate and irreparable damage by this showing," Kane said in issuing his order. The festival could appeal the ruling, but would have to reverse judgment before the last scheduled screening Sunday evening. The movie was directed by the renowned filmmaker Sydney Pollack, who died in 2008. □

McCartney, Bon Jovi, Fergie join for climate change song



In this June 12, 2014 file photo, Jon Bon Jovi attends the Songwriters Hall of Fame Awards in New York.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Paul McCartney, Jon Bon Jovi, Sheryl Crow and Fergie have joined forces to record a song about climate change.

Sean Paul, Leona Lewis and Colbie Caillat also appear on "Love Song to the Earth," which was released Friday on iTunes and Apple Music via Connect.

Proceeds from the track will benefit the United Nations Foundation and Friends of the Earth. Nicole Scherzinger, Natasha Bedingfield, Angelique Kidjo, Kelsea Ballerini and Victoria Justice also appear on the track.

The song was created to support a U.N. conference in Paris this December that's aimed at reaching a deal with more than 190 nations to keep global warming from reaching dangerous levels.

"Love Song to the Earth" will receive a wide release on Sept. 11. Johnny Rzeznik, Krewella, Christina Grimmie and Q'Orianka Kilcher also sing on the song. □

Rocker Chrissie Hynde: Assault by bikers is 'the way it was'



In this Jan. 22, 2009 file photo shows, Chrissie Hynde, lead singer of the Pretenders, during rehearsals at John Henry's Studio in north London.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Legendary rocker Chrissie Hynde was with the band. And not just as the sultry-voiced singer with the Pretenders,

which won popularity decades ago with hits such as "Brass in Pocket" and "Ohio." Early in her life, Hynde fell

in with a band of outlaw bikers. She wound up being beaten, robbed and raped, she says in an interview to air on this week's "Sunday Morning" on CBS. Hynde, 63, is philosophical about the assault.

"If you hung out with those guys, that's what happened. That's the way it was," she says.

Hynde says she didn't fear for her life, though she should have.

"We were just trying to score pot and see bands," she explains. "And if motorcycles were part of it, then even better."

But things could easily get out of hand.

"With a lot of these guys, once you get involved with them, you don't really get out," she says. "Especially if you're a woman — you become sort of property." Hynde writes about the attack in her new memoir, "Reckless: My Life as a Pretender." "Sunday Morning With Charles Osgood" airs Sunday at 9 a.m. EDT. □

Disney unveils Star Wars toys amid marketing blitz

BREE FOWLER

RYAN NAKASHIMA

AP Technology Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — The release of the new Star Wars movie may still be months off, but Disney is unleashing its full marketing "Force" behind the launch of hundreds of toys and other items related to the film.

The massive marketing blitz, which Disney has named "Force Friday," spans all kinds of media and included an 18-hour global "unboxing" streamed live on YouTube. Meanwhile, major toy retailers around the world opened their doors and held special events when the toys first became available just after midnight Friday. Among the first cities was Hong Kong with toy stores open at midnight.

The marketing push behind "Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens," is unique because it's so far ahead of the movie's U.S. release, 116 days to be exact. But analysts say it can work because Star Wars is such a popular franchise.

Leaked images of action figures of characters that have not even hit the big screen — like Sarco Plank, some kind of alien desert nomad that has only been glimpsed in a Vanity Fair on-set shoot — are only likely to fuel consumer demand, says Steve Pasierb, CEO of the Toy Industry Association.

"It's pretty rare, but in the age of social media, you can get those characters out and create buzz around these things in ways that you couldn't in the past," Pasierb says. "There's something easy to tap into, which is the Star Wars mystique which is some 30 years old."

Industry analysts at Piper-Jaffrey say they expect some \$3 billion worth of Star Wars merchandise will be sold this year and that sales next year could be even larger.

Even in a non-movie year, Star Wars merchandise has consistently sold well — \$2 billion annually around the world, according to Pasierb. So it's not so far-fetched that Disney will

exceed that in the publicity-blitz filled weeks ahead of premiere of the first Star Wars movie since Episode III in 2005.

Walt Disney Co. is fanning the flames of its Lucasfilm unit by making special use of the network of YouTube talent that it acquired when it bought Maker Studios for upwards of \$500 million last year. It arranged for 14 Maker stars around the globe to open new merchandise in live Web videos starting Wednesday afternoon. The event included a splashy special appearance Thursday morning on "Good Morning America," the variety news program of Disney-owned ABC.

While it isn't paying the stars — other than travel and expenses — it's hardly a non-partisan group of reviewers. The finale in San Francisco was hosted by Chris Pirillo, a self-described super fan who named his daughter Jedi.

Toy makers both big and small are gearing up for a big rush on Friday, then another wave of sales as the holiday shopping season gets going and the movie's Dec. 18 release date draws closer. Hasbro Inc., which has been making Star Wars toys for more than 30 years, planned to unveil more than 100 different items Friday.

"There's a new generation



This Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015 photo shows Sphero's BB-8 droid toy in New York. The BB-8 is controlled with a smartphone or tablet app and responds to basic voice commands such as "wake up," and "look around." It's just under 5-inches tall and makes cute little Droid sounds reminiscent of R2-D2.

Associated Press

mini version of the BB-8 droid featured in the new movie.

In the movie, the BB-8 is kind of like an updated version of R2-D2. It's a giant rolling sphere, with a traditional droid head that somehow manages to stay on top. The mini version created by Sphero moves much the same way.

Officially unveiled Thursday, the BB-8 had generated significant buzz by Friday morning. Numerous videos were posted to Twitter and the droid was featured prominently in "Force Friday" email ads from retailers such as Bed Bath & Beyond Inc. and Barnes & Noble Inc.

Developing and producing its BB-8 used up the majority of Sphero's resources for this year. But the company, which has received funding from Disney, expects that investment to pay off for years to come.

Other toys coming out include Toronto-based Spin Master Corp.'s "Legendary Yoda," a 16-inch version of the Jedi Master that boasts lifelike movements and voice recognition. It's yours for \$180.

Fuhu, which makes the nabi tablet computer for kids, has created \$170 Star Wars-themed accessory bundles that include a new 7-inch table. They come with sound effects, themed wallpapers and stickers designed to let kids customize their tablets. □



Star Wars fans shop at a toy store at midnight in Hong Kong, Friday, Sept. 4, 2015 as part of the global event called "Force Friday" to release new Star Wars toys and other merchandise of the new movie "Star Wars: The Force Awakens".

Associated Press

of boys and girls who are going to be brought in who may not even be aware of Star Wars yet," says Joe Ninivaggi, Hasbro's senior brand manager for Star Wars.

The Pawtucket, Rhode Island-based toy maker's offerings include Furbacca, a Chewbacca version of its Furby toy. It's also selling several different versions of lightsabers that feature the glowing daggers noticeable in the movie's previews.

Sphero, a Boulder, Colorado-based robot maker and one of the first members of Disney's Techstars program for startups, created a \$150



A Star Wars decorated Dodge Charger modeled after a First Order Stormtrooper Car is seen near a First Order Stormtrooper Car toy in a warehouse Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015, in Paterson, N.J.

Associated Press

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